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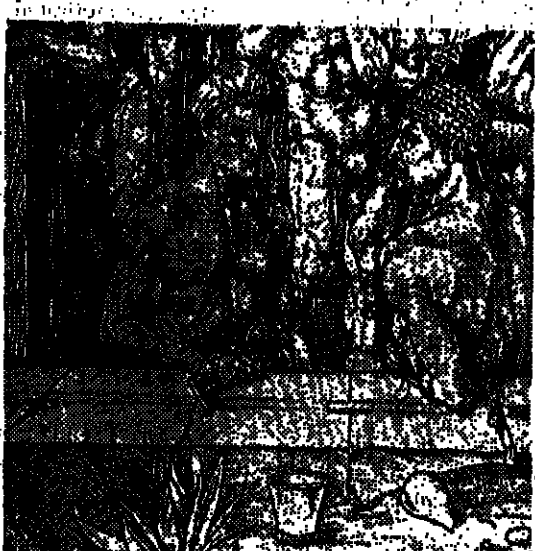
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The German Tribune

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF THE GERMAN PRESS

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Hamburg, 26 August 1971
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Israel's mistrust makes Mid-East peace uncertain



Will a fresh Arab-Israeli war break out between now and the New Year? Following the failure of mediation by Joseph Sisco of the US State Department the prospects of prolongation of the cease-fire are poor.

When the armistice came into force on 7 August 1970 Israeli Defence Minister Moshe Dayan felt it represented an important step forwards in the direction of coming to an agreement. Similar political comments were made in Cairo. Hopes founded on the realities of the situation. Neither Gunnar Jarring of the United Nations nor American mediators have been able to report progress. President Sadat of Egypt now feels there is no longer any alternative to war.

Even though Cairo has intimated its willingness to make concessions (President Sadat even undertakes to recognise the State of Israel following a peace settlement) Israel has not budged from its position. At all events there is no sign of the more flexible approach recommended by several Western powers.

Jerusalem continues to insist on direct negotiations with the Arab countries.

IN THIS ISSUE

FOREIGN AFFAIRS Page 2

Salt talks could serve a useful exchange of ideas function

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS Page 5

Cologne survey explodes myth of loneliness of the aged

READING Page 7

Book trade still has to rely on door-to-door salesman

INDUSTRY Page 10

In three years Vogelsang has transformed Krupp

SCIENCE Page 12

New research project plans computer dating for porcelain

Immediately concerned, particularly the Arabs equally obstinately reject any such negotiations, viewing them as tantamount to capitulation.

Then assuming talks were held, in the case of traditional Arab disunity, are the prospects of a solution being reached?

Too, to say the least, one can but conclude...

Israel is also not prepared to state prior to peace talks what occupied territory it is willing to relinquish and which it is not prepared to return. This too has made the negotiators' work more difficult.

This is one of the reasons (over and above hegemonic interests) why the

is for Israel to return all territory it gained by force of arms in 1967.

There are signs, however, that this may not be Cairo's final word on the subject. Concessions in, say, the form of demilitarised areas are quite conceivable.

For months the Americans have been urging a partial solution on both sides, meaning first and foremost the reopening of the Suez Canal. In certain circumstances Israel would be prepared to withdraw from the canal but only on condition that Egypt did not then occupy the East Bank.

Washington's proposal that Egypt station token units on the Eastern side of the canal failed to meet with approval in Jerusalem and in Cairo too the answer was no, even though this again did not appear to be final.

In the meantime both sides have armed themselves to the teeth, Israel with American, Egypt with Soviet assistance. Egypt is prepared to strike before the year is out, President Sadat has threatened for some days.

Egypt requires Soviet backing for a new war, though, and relations with the Soviet Union have worsened considerably since events in Sudan, where Moscow gave the Communist-inspired putsch its blessing.

There is no getting away from this fact, friendship pact or no friendship pact, and the new situation leaves many questions unanswered.

On the one hand Moscow is intent on regaining lost ground, on the other it cannot afford to allow itself to be manoeuvred into a position that might lead to direct confrontation with the United States.

How, then, can the Kremlin be expected to behave? There can be no doubt that aggravation of the Arab-Israeli conflict provides Moscow with an opportunity of reminding the Arabs yet again how dependent they are on the Soviet

China's invitation to President Nixon to visit Peking must have come as a greater shock to the Soviet Union than virtually any diplomatic move in recent years.

It is not only the polemics against Peking's foreign policy that have grown perceptibly harsher in tone. The Kremlin evidently feels that a political system that has proved its worth in crisis prevention in the course of countless confrontations and, later, negotiations with the United States is in danger.

Crisis prevention and safeguarding of the peace, brought about by means of a language of political and diplomatic smoke signals, is the foremost consideration of Soviet diplomacy.

Two superpowers could reach agreement on a system of safeguards because moves, counter-moves and readily assessable interests are involved. The emergence of a third factor, not to mention even more, makes matters that much more difficult.

To judge by the tenor of the article one would have thought that America and



Russian Sports Minister in Bonn

Sergei Pavlov (right), the Soviet Minister for Sports, has visited the Federal Republic for talks with Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the Federal Republic Minister responsible for sport. Sergei Pavlov also met Bundestag members who serve on the Bundestag committee for sport and the Munich Olympic Games. (Photo: dpa)

Arab world the Kremlin can be expected to do their level best to exploit the situation to their own benefit.

They have always been adept at making a special point of being the defenders of Arab interests when the crisis in the Middle East has been at its height. Viewed in this light aggravation of the conflict can, but be welcomed in the Kremlin.

The question is, though, how great their influence on Egypt, the principal Arab country, is at present and how much leeway they will allow the Arabs before feeling compelled to call for restraint because of the Americans.

At times Moscow has pressed for a peaceful solution in the Middle East. Presumably the Soviet Union is now again interested in maintaining a state of affairs midway between war and peace.

Depending on the lie of the land in the

Arab world the Kremlin can be expected to do their level best to exploit the situation to their own benefit.

The Israeli government mistrusts both great powers, in America's case because Washington has of late increased its pressure on Israel. The United States has on more than one occasion made proposals involving a gradual Israeli withdrawal.

Israel has rejected these proposals one by one, talking in terms of American pressure that must be resisted. There has even been talk of false friends.

How can peace come about in circumstances such as these? During Mr Sisco's mission Secretary of State William Rogers noted that frontiers alone are no guarantee of Israeli security. He has hit the nail on the head.

Jerusalem need not bother hoping for peace as long as it fails to grasp the fact.

Hans Rademacher
(Köln: Stadt-Anzeiger, 16 August 1971)

The world must learn to live with Red China

Soviet Union refused in 1959 to build up its own nuclear force.

Chinese diplomatic activity in Asia, Chinese membership of the United Nations, even another direct frontier clash is something Moscow could stomach. But to forfeit the monopoly of negotiation with the United States on behalf of all Communist Parties and countries, for Peking to embark on a policy of its own towards the United States, is, as far as the Soviet leaders are concerned, to take things too far.

Semi-official reactions from Moscow bear witness to virtual panic. Take, for instance, the Pravda commentary claiming that Washington and Peking were in the process of conspiring to divide the world between them.

To judge by the tenor of the article one would have thought that America and

China have much more in common than differences of opinion and that Mr Nixon had already met Chairman Mao and the two men had already signed treaties of one kind and another.

Magyar Hírlap, a Hungarian paper, took an even gloomier view of the prospects. Chou En-lai was already envisaged as the architect of an anti-Soviet axis extending from Belgrade to Tirana and Bucharest. Speculation of this kind is clearly Soviet-inspired.

China's re-entry to the world's stage has admittedly changed the room for manoeuvre in Eastern Europe. It is bound to have some effect on traditional post-war power blocs.

It would nonetheless be a mistake to assume imperial designs on China's part. At present the People's Republic neither has cause nor power enough to have any such ambitions.

The world must learn to live with China. It rather looks as though the Soviet Union is going to have the greatest of difficulty in so doing.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 14 August 1971)

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Salt talks could serve a useful exchange-of-ideas function

Salt has for many people in this country remained a somewhat vague abbreviation. Few people are going to deny that talks on a limitation of the nuclear arms race between the superpowers are important but these top-level disarmament negotiations aimed at not a reduction but a freeze in missile potential could hardly be expected to become popular.

Above all they were unlikely to become popular in Europe where since the onset of the Salt talks in November 1969 it has been feared that the superpowers might come to terms at Europe's expense.

The strict secrecy observed by Washington and Moscow in respect of their exclusive talks have not made the missile dispute any the clearer despite the occasional leaks to the press.

Last but not least the strategic arms limitation talks are a complicated business calling for expert explanation and the pundits have had remarkably little to say for themselves of late.

This silence could mean that the pundits know no more than the man in the street. On the other hand it could also mean that the talks have reached such a tricky stage that unduly daring forecasts could put the cat among the pigeons. What, then, is the position this summer?

According to one of the best-informed men on the subject, Ian Smart of the London Institute of Strategic Studies, the position is surprisingly satisfactory. He feels it is not going too far to suggest that a limited Salt agreement may be reached before the year is out.

For domestic and social reasons both sides have if anything grown increasingly

interested in reaching agreement in the course of the Vienna and Helsinki talks. Also, they have both come to grasp the significance of the momentum of negotiation and to view the Salt talks themselves as a stabilising factor.

The deciding factor, however, is a lesson both the Soviet Union and the United States have learnt in connection with their mutual relations, a lesson that has run parallel to the Salt talks.

While the world's attention has been directed to the negotiating teams in Vienna and Helsinki both Moscow and Washington have modified their respective outlooks. It is characteristic of this state of affairs that the most spectacular review of progress so far has been made not at the conference table but in the American capital.

On the one hand Washington has had to shed the arrogance of its intention of 'teaching' the Soviet Union what constitutes nuclear strategy; on the other Moscow has had to abandon its uncompromising attitude as concealed by a genuine or apparent lack of interest in the Western arguments on strategic matters.

Both sides have learnt from and about each other. Communications have increased and with them willingness to reach partial agreement on anti-ballistic missile systems.

Not, for that matter, that a treaty which may be drafted but is unlikely to be signed this year will result in total renunciation of anti-missile systems. For this the deterrent systems are too sluggish and both superpowers have already invested too heavily in their respective systems.

The Soviet Union has its 64-missile mini-shield around Moscow which admittedly in military terms hardly stands up to comparison with US overkill capacity. The Americans have their bases designed to protect Minuteman missiles in North Dakota, Missouri and Montana, also as yet but a fragmentary system.

128, double the number of Soviet ABMs, could turn out to be a compromise formula. This would seem to be borne out by a 'disclosure' in the *New York Times* at the end of last month.

Apparently the US delegation in Helsinki has suggested an alternative solution to the effect that the two governments choose between a hundred-missile shield surrounding the capital city and three hundred missiles or so concentrated at three points with the intention of shielding counterstrike capacity.

There has been no official confirmation of this report but it would seem plausibly to round off the impression that a partial agreement is in the offing.

If Salt is to be a success it is important that both sides go further and hit upon a means of further progress in the field of offensive weapons. This puts the United States in something of a dilemma.

Assuming, as Washington tends to do, that the Soviet Union has the edge in SS 9, SS 11 and SS 13 ICBMs there must be some reduction of this potential if the balance is to be restored.

But at present Washington has no counter-concession to make that is sufficiently interesting from the Soviet Union's point of view. In certain circumstances America might first have to boost its potential in order to disarm on a tit for tat basis.

Whether intentionally or not a tactical arms programme of this kind could add fuel to the arms race fire. If only to preclude expensive and futile misunderstandings of this kind Salt ought to establish itself as an institution and means of communication between the superpowers.

Christian Potyka
(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 10 August 1971)

India's non-alignment policy sacrificed to Kremlin's bait

It all began with President Johnson's resolve to confer with the North Vietnamese in Paris. Everything since has been a logical consequence of that first move.

There is more point in noting that India may yet live to regret the haste with which it made certain of Soviet support in the event of conflict with Pakistan.

India has now let itself in for a situation not dissimilar to that which faced this country under Konrad Adenauer. It prefers to evade the necessity of coming to terms with its weaker and immediate neighbour, China, instead seeking the protection of an ally that is not an immediate neighbour, has other interests and consequently may change its priorities.

In return for this uncertain reward India may now consider itself to be the principal agent of Soviet interests in Asia. It remains to be seen whether or not this is a desirable aim apart, of course, from the India preoccupation with Pakistan.

India has been on a limb in Asia before: without friends because it was too weak for the powerful countries, too powerful for the weaker countries and too poor, too arrogant and too undecided for both.

There could now even be a change for the worse since China, which for a variety of reasons exercises a far greater spell on the rest of Asia, will take a dim view of other Asian countries establishing too cordial relations with India as an ally of

the Soviet Union. In Chinese eyes this would now constitute an unfriendly act and who in Asia would in the present circumstances want to arouse Chinese displeasure?

The rest of the world would like first and foremost to know whether the Indo-Soviet pact improves or worsens the prospect of war between India and Pakistan.

Provided it is limited to the pre-Napoleonic manoeuvres of the 1965 conflict a war need not have serious international repercussions. When all is said and done the 1965 conflict did not do so.

The situation would, however, be a good deal more critical if China, as Pakistan's partner, and the Soviet Union, as India's partner, were to be involved. In view of the new and old ties of both sides opinion in Delhi and Islamabad now counts for less than opinion in Moscow and Peking.

On the other hand had they wanted a pretext for major confrontation both Moscow and Peking could have chosen earlier and better occasions. The Sino-Soviet frontier incidents, for instance, would have presented a more plausible opportunity as far as the general public in Russia and China are concerned than the fate of Bangla Desh, about which the man in the street in Moscow or Peking is a trifle hazy, to say the least.

More than ever before India's resolves, moves and non-moves will reflect those of the Soviet Union. India can no longer act on, say, war with Pakistan without first gaining Moscow's blessing.

It will come as a sad blow to many people in New Delhi that this is what has come of India's proud policy of non-alignment.

Thilo Bode
(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 12 August 1971)

Leonid Brezhnev plans to visit Belgrade

Frankfurter Allgemeine

Hardly has the Soviet Union about the Balkans with military manoeuvres on the doorstep but Leonid Brezhnev's forthcoming visit to Yugoslavia is confirmed.

Many will breathe a sigh of relief closer scrutiny reveals that there is no reason for this initial reaction. In the Czechoslovakia it is none too common to argue that the Soviet leader is hardly visiting a country he was once point of invading.

Above all the geographical location of the danger has now changed. Rumours that the country currently most threatened, the Soviet Union. Its independent posture towards the West has irritated Moscow. Its determined resistance to all attempts by the Kremlin to gain control over Rumanian economy and military matters by means of supranational devices annoyed the Soviet leaders.

Bucharest's demonstrative cooperation with Peking has infuriated Brezhnev. Pologny most of all. No one can say whether strong-arm tactics will be the result. And the prospects of Rumanian intervention or the threat of intervention cannot be said to have improved with the news of General Secretary Brezhnev's forthcoming visit to President Tito.

For the Soviet Union Yugoslavia is another matter altogether. It asserted its independence twenty-three years ago and has since developed an independent domestic set-up to go with it. Yugoslavia was never a member of the Warsaw Pact. Soviet calculations are going to be upset by Belgrade pursuing open policy towards the West and intensifying its contacts with Peking.

As far as Moscow is concerned Yugoslavia has for long been an outside issue. It casts its long shadow to the west. The Soviet Union can only pursue a policy of slowly regaining influence in Yugoslavia by political means - and this is evidently the aim of Mr Brezhnev's visit.

In Yugoslavia the Soviet leader is appealing to the common heritage of socialism, something that exists on paper alone as far as the two countries are concerned. He will also endeavour by virtue of his visit to add grist to the mill of conservatives in the Yugoslav Party.

He cannot count on lasting success. Yugoslavia may be moving but it is hardly to be said to be moving in the direction of Soviet Communism.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 12 August 1971)

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OSTPOLITIK

Great strides have been made since Moscow Treaty was signed

It was 13 August, the day on which the Berlin Wall was erected in East Berlin. Then came 12 August, the day on which the Treaty of Moscow was signed.

Some people find the proximity of these two dates perverse. According to them the Wall is the end of the world and what goes on behind it is no concern of ours.

For people such as this Marshall McLuhan, the Canadian communications expert had a saying: "They look at the present in a rear-view mirror. They march backwards into the future."

And so for the past twelve months since the Federal Republic signed the Moscow Treaty we have been flooded with pessimistic predictions and grim forebodings; reproaches are levelled against the government and attempts have been made to throw the government off the rails with defamation, and to lay it bare with revelations and exposés.

If the government is to satisfy the wishes of its critics it must fulfil two patriotic duties. Firstly there must be one Berlin in one Germany and above all there must be a cease-fire order. As if any government in the world, let alone Bonn, were in a position to achieve either of these goals!

The Christian Democrats and Christian Socialists have not always been so negative. It was after all their Foreign Minister Gerhard Schröder under their Chancellor Konrad Adenauer who introduced a new relationship between this country and the East in the sixties and who wrote the preface to the normalisation with the Peace Note of March 1966.

The right-wing parties are not basically against all East Bloc policies. According to tradition it is precisely these conservative parties that should have been speaking up for a policy of accommodation with the communist East and been pushing this policy through. Perhaps it is recognition of this fact that has provided the subconscious motivation for the Party's present flight into blind opposition to the government's policy.

Basically, however, both major parties have sensed that it is high time to try to link up again with Germany's historical middle-of-the-road position, which is located in Central Europe and not in Western Europe.

Back in the days of the Grand Coalition when the CDU and SPD acted together the statement of government policy showed that theoretically both parties wanted one and the same thing, but that when the time came to act the misgivings of the conservatives exceeded their convictions. And certainly there were grounds for misgiving.

12 August 1970, when Chancellor Brandt travelled to Moscow to sign the treaty announcing the use or threat of force, did not mark the end of these difficult negotiations, but merely the completion of the first phase.

The difficulties in fact only came to light when discussions started. And it is still to continue in the same vein with a succeeding chain of negotiations, at which sides take their stand against each other and defend it vigorously, and claim makes claim, resulting in deadlock.

The unusual complications that have arisen at the present ambassadorial talks in Berlin come not only from the heavy burden of continued mistrust which is a legacy from the past, but above all from the vastly differing visions of the future that are entertained in the East and West.

Both sides are agreed that they want to

re-constitute the Euro-Asian continent but the two base their ideas on vastly different patterns and have diametrically opposite aims.

The Soviet Union has visions of a Greater Europe stretching from the Urals to the Atlantic and freed from all influences from outside Europe, and for this reason the USSR would have a natural hegemonial role to play.

The West, on the other hand, has to a certain extent still got John F. Kennedy's "Grand Design" in mind, that is to say the Atlantic Community, that structure that would be held up by two pillars, the United States of America and Western Europe.

The only difference now is that the idea of a jointly-owned house has largely given way to the concept of a partnership and alliance.

But for all those involved on the Western side the number one thesis is: "On no account can America be left out."

But the fact that both sides have differing points of view has never been a reason for hampering negotiations either in politics nor in other spheres of living such as commerce.

Once again this case has shown that the mere act of sitting at a table, looking each other in the eyes, trotting out the old old arguments as if from a gramophone record can give a momentum to the business that opens up completely new possibilities.

There is a mutual process of learning, a spark from the interaction of two conflicting sides that could never be created by either side on its own. This spark takes on life, grows...

Personally I can see four positive results from the past twelve months:

Firstly: Bonn's first step towards normalisation with the communist East has met with general approval from all over the world. The treaty of 12 August 1970 has robbed the East Bloc of the opportunity of using the Federal Republic as a permanent bogeyman to keep subjects in order. Fear of a German counter-revolution was the reason for building the Wall in 1961 and was still used as an excuse in 1968 when Warsaw Pact troops raped Czechoslovakia. But by December 1970 when it never broke out in Poland the German influence could no longer be cited. The new politics have lifted the opinions of the Federal Republic held by our Western Allies and the Third World to a new high that has not yet been fully appreciated here. Without this new line it would have been impossible for the Federal Republic to keep up with the dynamic new political developments that are racing forward all over the world.

Secondly: The fact that Bonn made ratification of the treaties dependent on a satisfactory conclusion to the Berlin talks offered the advantage that the most difficult part of the negotiations, namely an improvement in the status quo, was made the responsibility of the more powerful Western Allies. Also this has meant that the question of Berlin, which had become a pain in the neck and a complete bore for the rest of the world has once again become the focal point for the world of political activity. All the Atlantic area countries have stressed, not only within the scope of Nato but also off their own bat, that an agreement on Berlin is a condition - nay, the only condition - on which the dream of Moscow for a European Security Conference can be made to come true.

Thirdly: Recognition of the Oder-Neisse Line as the western border of Poland has led to Walter Ulbricht's "reserved Hallstein Doctrine" being sunk without trace. At the end of 1967 with pressure from Moscow and East Berlin all socialist countries came to a tacit agreement that none of them take up diplomatic relations with the Federal Republic before West Germany had recognised the German Democratic Republic in international law. This condition no longer applies since the signing of the treaties. The Poles have agreed to an exchange of ambassadors as soon as the Warsaw Treaty has been ratified.

Fourthly: Although it cannot be proved and can only be assumed one result of the past twelve months' work is the fact that the GDR is no longer directly demanding recognition in international law through Bonn. It is only making the justified claim that treaties concluded with Bonn should be answerable to international law. It was clear as long ago as May that a breakthrough had been made in the ambassadorial negotiations on Berlin, when the Soviet Union once again took over the responsibility for free access from the Federal Republic to West Berlin and no longer treated this as a sovereign right of the GDR.

One objection constantly being raised by opponents of the new policy line is the tempo at which the Ostpolitik is being carried out. It is said that the government is acting far too hastily and that everything is being senselessly hurried along. Senseless? It would have been quite senseless to keep the Soviets on a string when they were ready, willing and eager to get negotiations going.

Andrei Gromyko's recent visit to India underlined that there are good grounds for the Soviet getting a move on. On the Friday it was announced that Gromyko would be going to New Delhi for five days. On the Sunday night he arrived there and on the Monday morning the treaty of friendship and assistance was signed!

Negotiations with Bonn and those involving the ambassadors in Berlin were not carried out with anything like as much alacrity, but by Russian standards were still remarkably quick.

The Russian bear has been used for centuries to having plenty of time and taking it. It is a creature that has trotted along without exerting itself and has dallied along the way. But recently it has bucked itself up and shaken off dull sloth. Nobody has ever seen this lumbering creature move with such agility and speed.

Obviously the Soviets now consider it necessary to act swiftly, not this time to pursue a policy of expansion, but in order to make the boundaries of its already grossly and excessively expanded empire safe from inroads.

Gräfin Marion Dönhoff
(Die Zeit, 13 August 1971)



Chancellor Willy Brandt and Soviet Premier Alexei Kosygin signing the Moscow Treaty on 12 August 1970 in the Kremlin (Photo: dpa)

Disarrayed Opposition scorns Brandt's cooperation offer

Süddeutsche Zeitung

Poland has led to Walter Ulbricht's "reserved Hallstein Doctrine" being sunk without trace. At the end of 1967 with pressure from Moscow and East Berlin all socialist countries came to a tacit agreement that none of them take up diplomatic relations with the Federal Republic before West Germany had recognised the German Democratic Republic in international law. This condition no longer applies since the signing of the treaties. The Poles have agreed to an exchange of ambassadors as soon as the Warsaw Treaty has been ratified.

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Gräfin Marion Dönhoff
(Die Zeit, 13 August 1971)

Chancellor Brandt's latest offer to the CDU/CSU Opposition for more intensive cooperation in future on important foreign policy questions, which has been made as a result of the growing nervousness at the domestic policy debates concerning the Berlin Question, is a warning to the right-wing that the permanent confrontation in the Bundestag must come to an end.

This offer and political appeal should not be misunderstood as a political move to try to seek the Opposition's assistance, born of anxiety. Willy Brandt's reassurance that neither his government nor the Western Allies will accept any solution to the Berlin problem that is other than satisfactory is evidence enough that the Chancellor is clear in his mind of the way ahead.

For greater cooperation between government and Opposition to come about on important matters of foreign policy requires more than simply the good will of the government. The SPD/FDP will obviously continue to pursue the policies they consider right and proper, and which are backed by the Majority.

The Opposition has already rejected one government offer - that it would be allowed to send a representative along as an observer at the negotiations in Moscow, and later in Warsaw.

When it came to the Berlin problem they accepted the offer, but the confusion within the ranks of the CDU/CSU about responsibilities and who can be informed by the government of the decision that is finally made by the Western Allies on Berlin is not a particularly encouraging foreboding.

If the CSU complains that only the floor leader of the Opposition in the Bundestag, Rainer Barzel, and occasionally Richard Stücklen are kept au fait with the latest developments the question arises: how many leaders has the Opposition got?

Until the CDU/CSU answer this question the desirable greater cooperation between government and Opposition on foreign policy matters, inasmuch as this requires an exchange of confidential information, will be difficult to achieve.

This is especially true considering the divergent ideas on foreign policy that underlie the present battle for the leadership of the CDU/CSU.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 11 August 1971)

■ BOOK REVIEWS

Two new books provide interesting review of past 100 years of German history

VORWARTS

Art, literature and science do not exist in a vacuum remote from society and politics. The tendencies that give an age its specific intellectual and cultural stamp effect the social and political arguments of the time and are influenced by them in their turn.

This complex inter-relationship between politics and culture, art and society means that it is difficult to give a short but accurate account of the cultural history of a particular age.

A venture such as this demands a sense of proportion and a talent for skillful presentation as well as a thorough knowledge of the subject. This is especially true of an age like the Weimar Republic which had so many conflicting features that opinions about it are still mixed today.

A myth has grown up around the culture of the Weimar Republic — the myth of the Golden Twenties. Some people dismiss it as a left-wing-inspired legend while others remember it as the one saving grace of an otherwise gloomy political era.

Peter Gay's work skilfully outlines the basic features of the cultural and intellectual life of this period. He succeeds above all in presenting a lasting impression of the intellectual tensions between the German Empire and the Nazi dictatorship.

Creative achievements found a ready public in Germany with the attempt to emphasise Germany as a country of lyric poetry, humanist philosophy and peaceful cosmopolitan life now that the Germany inspired by Bismarck and Schlieffen had been destroyed. Progressive and experimental tendencies came to the forefront in science, literature and the arts.

The Weimar style now achieving its breakthrough had grown up during the German Empire as the product of the outsiders of Wilhelmian society who now seized the chance offered by revolution.

The Republic in which it developed was also a political and social venture of the outsiders of established society — Democrats, Socialists and Jews.

The opportunities offered by the new political system were first gladly welcomed by the new cultural movements but soon the hopes of the intellectuals were far in advance of the real political situation.

Few intellectuals became passionate advocates of the Republic. The most it could hope for was tolerance from those people such as Gustav Stresemann and Thomas Mann who gradually came to accept the Republic though preferred a basically non-political reconciliation between the classes to the political battle between right and left wings.

Those intellectuals who were committed to the Republic tried to form a critical consciousness in their various disciplines in the hope that this would be applied to all branches of life. But they were isolated within the conservatism of the universities and were far from the centre of political life.

The people who accepted the Republic as a matter of convenience and the critical intellectuals later found due recognition abroad for their achievements.

But their influence on developments in the Weimar Republic was as negligible as the influence of reason and critical

awareness had always been on the political life of Germany.

Poetry was a much greater influence on the thought of the time as it depicted a better world, a world that was still intact, forming a contrast to the realities of life.

The strong influence of the George circle, Rilke and the Hölderlin, Kleist and Büchner revivals illustrates the attraction of the view that poetry banished the "superficial thinking" of the Enlightenment.

The widespread tendency to attach more importance to poets than philosophers was the practical consequence of the rejection of all politics and an escape from the fight between the political parties into irrationalities that were no less political in effect.

The thirst for totality, this fear of modernity, was fostered by a chaotic flood of profound publications offering people support in their flight from a highly complex society and propagating a hollow anti-rationalism.

Their main theme was the essential difference between the German character and Russian barbarism, French decadence, American technocracy and British mercenaryism.

The authors found a basis for their views among social theoreticians such as Sombart (Shopkeepers and Heroes), Tönnies (Community and Society) and Klages (The Spirit as the Adversary of the Soul).

Many historians glorified Germany's "heroic" era and its leaders, a theme seized upon by the theatre and film industries to inflame the emotions of those people who were unwilling to accept the Weimar Republic.

Not all cultural movements during the Weimar period were a withdrawal from the world. The Bauhaus group tried to fashion the new environment. Expressionist music, films, drama and art was the expression of a revolutionary uprising against the state of the world but it remained non-political and without a programme.

New Objectivity replaced Expressionism and sought to attain a position in the real world via realistic presentation, accurate reporting and naturalist idioms.

This all attests to the vitality of the intellectual movements of the time but

this outsiders' culture had already decayed when the appeal for an ordered and simple life in an organic community with leaders and the led had proved triumphant.

The sequel to the cultural activity of the Weimar Republic were the expulsions, deportations and emigrations of those people who were unable in the long run to maintain their position as insiders in a society whose established basic structures had been preserved from the Empire.

This cannot be illustrated more clearly than by the attitude of the distinguished German scholar J. Petersen when he objected that President Ebert and Reichstag President Löbe were to be invited to Gerhard Hauptmann's sixtieth birthday celebrations in 1922 on the grounds that two Social Democrats at once were too much for Berlin University.

The efforts of detente currently being undertaken by the Federal Republic towards the German Democratic Republic and the Eastern European countries are a good reason for remembering the continuity and discontinuity of German historical developments as they involve problems arising from the legacy and burdens of past history.

Hundert Jahre Deutschland 1870-1970 tries to trace these developments in Germany since Bismarck founded the Empire in 1870 and 1971.

The book sets itself the difficult task of documenting in photographs and articles on age whose last section since 1945 seems to have fallen behind the pomposis start marked by the proclamation of the Reich in 1870/71 in the solution of the old political issue of Germany as a National State.

This only marks out an outer framework showing the hopes and illusions which are not always beneficial to solving the current German question.

1870 and 1970 are stages of a political process that destroyed many of the political illusions and hopes of 1870 and 1918 because of the avoidable acts and inexcusable arrogance of German policies.

Both the highpoints and the errors of this development are impressively documented in this comprehensive volume. Of course the verdict on such a broadly-based work with its wealth of detail

cannot depend on a painstaking evaluation of individual points. Differences about the choice of pictures illustrating particular events are as inevitable as differences about the practicability of many of the picture captions that, because of need for brevity, do not always intelligibly the background to the depicted.

Shortcomings of the type are inevitable but the book makes up for this by choosing pictures in such a way that they communicate a balanced impression of the political, economic and cultural conditions of the time.

The editors have also succeeded in the difficult task of presenting an under-evaluation of the political and social development of these hundred years culminating in a democratic order in Germany.

One particular merit of the book is selection of descriptive and analytical texts to the various periods. The texts

Peter Gay: Die Republik der Kaiserzeit. Geist und Kultur in der Weimarer Zeit: 1918-1933 (The Weimar Republic. Learning and Culture in the Weimar Era 1918-1933) Published by S. Fischer, Frankfurt. Hundert Jahre Deutschland 1870-1970 (One hundred years of Germany 1870-1970) Edited by H. A. Jakobson, W. Dollinger, published by Deutscher Verlag, Munich.

extracts from books by well-known contemporaries and historians like Herder, Meining, Oncken, Bracher, Golo, Marx, Meineke and Jaspers.

These extracts illustrate the various aspects under which the period is seen and without doubt provides representative cross-section of historical judgment over these hundred years of German history.

There are also contributions by German historian Stefan Doornik and writer collective on modern past history, which underlines how valid views expressed will be.

The history of these hundred years continues in both text and picture in the new government's take-over of power in 1969. Richard von Weizsäcker has written a foreword and Willy Brandt an epilogue.

The appendix contains extracts of Bismarck's speeches to the Reichstag, Gustav Heinemann's address on taking office as President. These have a clear illustrative function at the end of an informative and stimulating survey of hundred years of German history.

Walter Schlegel (Vorwärts, 5 August 1971)

It is also useful to read his article on the functions of Bolshevik elections especially in connection with the section on parliamentary elections in the German Democratic Republic.

The historical and theoretical part of the book is followed by an appendix of election statistics and the most important sources for the history of German elections ranging from the Prussian Ordinance of 1808 to the electoral laws of the People's Chamber.

On the whole, this work by the political scientists is a good supplementary volume to a handbook by Dieter Nohlen and Bernhard Sternberger published in 1969.

Dieter Nohlen did the editing of the handbook — entitled "The Election of Parliaments and Other State Organs" — and it is today considered to be one of the best guides to electoral systems of European countries from Albania to Yugoslavia.

Wahlen in Deutschland contains much-expanded articles from the handbook, supplementing them with statistical data and an extensive list of sources.

Dieter Nohlen (Vorwärts, 5 August 1971)

■ COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

Cologne survey explodes myth of loneliness of the aged

Dr Otto Blume, the head of the Cologne Sociological Research Institute, has interviewed eight thousand pensioners to find out how old people live today, whether they would like to live differently and what criticisms they have to make of their present situation.

It is quite usual today for old people to live on their own. Large families have almost ceased to be and there has been a constant decrease in the number of two-generation households.

At the same time the number of old people has increased because of increased life expectancy. The number of over-65s has doubled in the past fifty years. Do they need help? Must something be done for them?

Dr Blume concentrated his examination on former industrial workers and found their material future secure with an average monthly income of over 300 Marks.

But, he asks, should a healthy over-65 be forced out of his job just because of his age?

There are two considerations behind his questions. Firstly, doctors suspect that suddenly leaving one's job can lead to death and, secondly, psychologists claim that leaving professional life cuts a person off from his environment and can lead to complete loneliness.

Neither of the two theories apply to the majority of old people. The doctors' theory is quashed by the statistics. The mortality rate of 60 to 65-year-olds is not much lower than that of the 65 to 69-year-olds.

The psychological theory is much vaguer as it depends on emotions. Dr Blume states, "We tried to find out how many old people feel lonely and are depressed by their solitude. Our findings in no way confirm this overgeneralisation. Only an extremely small number of old people are depressed at being alone. It does not even amount to one in ten."

Most of these lonely people — seventy per cent of them — are elderly women living alone on a low income. Perhaps the financial aspect plays a role as well as a woman's greater need for contact with the outside world.

While former industrial workers who live alone have an average monthly income of over 300 Marks, widows have less than two hundred, a fact that is not given enough consideration in discussions on the equality of the sexes.

As far as men are concerned, the survey

shows beyond doubt that there are as many lonely people among the 65 to 70-year-olds still at work as there are among pensioners.

Dr Blume also corrects two other widespread misconceptions. Finding that many over-65s were still physically fit enough to continue working, he pursued the question of how many actually would like to.

At present about one over-65-year-old in ten is still working full-time, the majority of them self-employed. But no more than five per cent of industrial workers continue to work until they are seventy.

But the situation was revealed even more clearly. About half the industrial workers said that they would like the retiring age to be lowered, and this in an age when income (which then decreases) tends more and more to determine a person's social position.

This wish does not conceal the intention to draw a pension at as early an age as possible and improve upon this income with a part-time job.

Only one pensioner in ten has a part-time job. Even then it is rarely former industrial workers that are involved but civil servants, public officials and, though not so common, white-collar workers.

The other misconception Dr Blume clears up is the one concerning the much-lamented loneliness of old people. More than half the over-65s in the cities have a home of their own that they do not share with their children or other relatives. They live alone and like it that way.

It is often maintained that only the housing shortage or smaller homes prevent old people living with their married children.

But Dr Blume's investigations show that the reverse is true. Only a quarter of the old people wanted to live together with their children or grandchildren. About half of those who actually did live with their children dreamed of a home of their own.

It must be pointed out by way of explanation that the survey — now included by Professor H. Thoma and Dr U. Lehr in *Altern, Probleme und Tatsachen* (Ageing, problems and facts), published by the Frankfurt Akademische Verlagsgesellschaft — was only conducted in cities and large towns. But Dr Blume is convinced that the situation is similar outside city life as well. *Gerhard Weise* (Welt der Arbeit, 30 July 1971)

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Society loses much by not taking advantage of the talents of the aged
(Photo: Archiv/Greta Robok)

Old age alone should not bar workers from employment

The generation gap has long caused tensions between young and old and the factory floor and other parts of the working world are also affected.

Since modern staffing policies have been concerned with creating a good atmosphere among employees, attempts have been made to trace the reasons for this conflict in professional life.

This country's Economic Rationalisation Board has been conducting investigations in the United States. It found that 41 per cent of all American firms in the past three years had no fixed rule on how young a new employee should be. Forty-three per cent considered older employees to be more productive. It is also reported from America that only nine per cent of the managers in 86 firms are younger than forty.

The Confederation of West German Employer Associations calls for positions where older employees can still develop. About one fifth of the working force in this country is over 55.

The Rationalisation Board commissioned 33 different time-and-motion studies to find whether there is any increase in the productivity of an older worker.

The time-and-motion studies were conducted at a number of firms and dealt with forty to sixty-year-olds. Employees in this age range found that not enough was being done for them. They live in the continual fear that they might be sacked overnight.

When the demands placed upon them were not very exacting, the more likely it was that they would flop. Conversations with older workers confirmed this. The more intelligence a job demanded, the less likely it would be that the employee was disappointed. On the contrary. A high percentage of suggestions for improvement were made by the over-forties. It was sometimes as high as fifty per cent.

Despite these welcome findings many personnel managers claim that older workers are not so flexible. Sometimes they even complained that their stubbornness made help impossible.

Women were excluded from these criticisms. Older female employees are today often preferred to their younger colleagues as they are thought to be reliable, friendly and on their toes.

An industrial doctor claims that the naturally-endowed adaptability of a woman is a great benefit to her in professional life, even when she becomes older.

Men above sixty on the other hand are dismissed far too soon, the Banks, Trade and Insurance Union claims. One personnel manager reports, "When I was first

appointed I was asked to dismiss an 'old man' of fifty. I did things differently and sought his understanding. Today he is my best employee."

The analyses conducted to reach these findings were carried out separately at a number of firms. But the results show astonishing similarities: Older workers are often not used in the best way possible.

This must be changed. Many firms are now trying to give their older workers appropriate occupation on the basis of the surveys. They are also trying to learn from past mistakes.

Personnel managers admit that older workers must be judged in glowing terms. They are more faithful to a firm. Accident figures, even on modern machine-tools are lower amongst older workers than younger ones.

They say that the dismissal of a worker over fifty needs the approval of the industrial committee and the workers

Hannoversche Allgemeine

council. If dismissal is unavoidable, the firm continues to pay his salary for eighteen months.

Other personnel managers claim that they are unable to fill a lot of the positions they have for the over-fifties.

It is also said that the number of staff has decreased by sixteen per cent as turnover increased. But the older workers have all climbed to higher positions: "Word soon spread that we had filled a whole class at a Hamburg career training academy with older workers who were promoted after passing their examinations."

The white-collar workers union has now drafted proposals calling for two to three weeks' paid leave for workers wishing to attend further training courses.

Older workers can thus improve their opportunities in professional life. Those who rely on what they learnt twenty years previously will have an increasingly harder time of things.

Large firms, in efforts to create a satisfactory public image often point to the low average age of their staff. But this could quickly change. The analysts has shown plainly that anyone writing off older workers for reasons of age alone is not only guilty of anti-social behaviour but is also acting against the interests of his firm. With retraining, many reliable old workers could prove to be a high productivity factor.

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 31 July 1971)

BOOKS

Jackets are book window-dressing

Gundel Gelbert has been trained as a salesgirl for books. Every day her colleagues in the bookshops of West Germany see Gundel's figure. She is also a part-time model and she is to be found on the cover of the German paperback version of Gore Vidal's collection of essays *Betrachtungen auf einem sinkenden Schiff* (Observations on a sinking ship).

Actually from the hips upwards Gundel is covered — with the Stars and Stripes. The American flag leaves only her right arm free, and this she raises on high. In her hand there is a phallic symbol. Her left hand cannot be seen, but it is holding a visible Tommy gun.

This book decorated with Gundel Gelbert, back and front, is selling well according to the publishing house Klempner and Witsch. In fact the armed, perverted Statue of Liberty has little to do with the themes of Gore Vidal's essays, but without doubt it is an attraction for the customers.

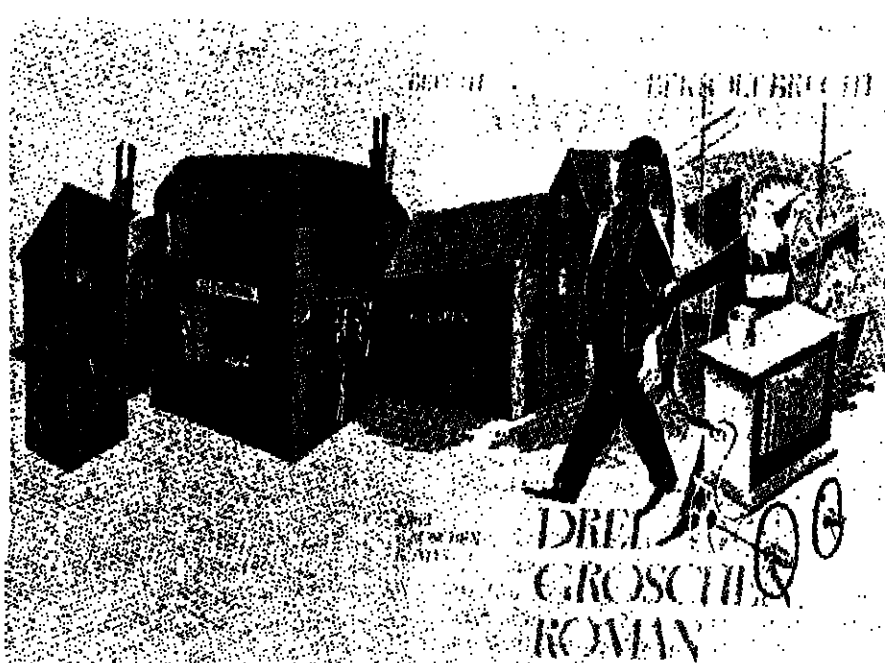
Graphic artist Hannes Jahn received the first prize at an exhibition of West German designers (Der werbende Umschlag, 1971) for his tempting morsel.

Gore Vidal is not after all one of the most Puritanical of authors. His novel *Aiya Breckinridge*, a satire on the fashionable pornography of Hollywood films is proof enough of this.

Nevertheless he complained to his West German publisher about using this work of Hannes Jahn for the cover of his collection of essays.

With the advent of pop-art bum-art became a fashion for the designers of paperback covers. Pop is popular, it has enriched the language of graphic designers and is an amusing ironic comment on society unchained.

The fashionable bum would presumably still be charming if it graced the



Jacket by Franz Hasen (1950)

front of a book of logarithmic tables, but then the craze of book designers would finally be recognized as craziness.

Such craziness was not in evidence at the most recent exhibition of the Deutsche Literaturarchiv at the Schiller Museum in Marbach, entitled *Buchumschläge 1900-1950* (Book covers...).

Nevertheless there was no lack of curios at this exhibition of this specialised field of design from the first half of this century.

Even as recently as 1945 a book cover was banned by a Zürich censor because it showed an elegant lady slightly exposing a shoulder and this was considered a bone of contention!

In 1932 Berlin authorities called for the cover of an edition of Upton Sinclair's novel *Alkohol* to be changed: it showed a massive bottle of whisky with a drunkard clinging to it. The point of the objection was that the bottle clearly showed the name of a famous distiller.

The firm in question objected to its name being used in this way. Malik Verlag, the publishing house in question, was not perturbed by this injunction. In place of the firm's name and the brand of whisky it printed the text of the injunction. Once again the distiller in question raised legal objections. This interesting story was cut short by the advent of Hitler and his Nazis. They banned the whole publishing house!

The same publishing house and the same cover designer had already had a spot of bother back in 1927 and this time the aristocracy was involved. The objections were raised over the cover to Harry Domela's *Der falsche Prinz - Mein Leben und meine Abenteuer. Im Gefängnis zu Köln von ihm selbst geschrieben*. (The bogus prince - my life and adventures, written in Cologne prison).

The cover of the first edition was decorated with a picture of the prince. On the second edition this picture had been obliterated and on the third edition it

was removed altogether and replaced with a report on the whole incident which read: "According to the judgment of a Berlin court on 26 January 1928 we have been definitively prohibited from publishing a picture of the genuine Prince Wilhelm of Prussia on this cover as on earlier editions of this book. The young gentleman in fact no longer belongs to contemporary history according to his own judgment and that of the court. Moreover it is detrimental to the honour of the Hohenzollern family for a picture of a member of that family to be placed next to one of Herr Domela..."

This is a highly unusual exhibition of an art medium that has received little attention and demonstrates clearly the schizophrenic situation of artists such as those who design book covers and have to serve consumer society.

This dichotomy was underlined by the anger of Marcus Behmer who ranted on a postcard in 1957: "I cannot stand this treatment of art and artists by work 'publishers', this 'supplying' of such which is sold as 'art' but is ordered as 'goods'... Publishing houses of this kind should carry a sign saying 'main entrance for fine people only; tradesmen's entrance round the back'."

Book covers are proof that literary themes are often coercive for artists to adapt themselves to contemporary history. The conservative kind are generally also conservative in their choice of materials. They tend to go for the idyllic, to make things heroic, to employ antiquated ornaments and to make decidedly bourgeois woodcuts.

The progressives are a different kettle of fish. They seek a new means of expression in order to do justice to the social aspects of the book they are illustrating and those aspects of it that are concerned with social criticism.

They use caricatures, collages, photo-montages, biting satire; like Otto Dix and George Grosz, who wrote in the foreword to his *Spiegel* (Reflections of petty-bourgeois) of 1925: "I consider drawings a good weapon against the present-day Middle Ages. I like to be a conscious moralist and satirist..."

John Hartfield, who was responsible for the offending whisky bottle, is even more open about this than George Grosz. He reckons that political convictions are at least as important as effective advertising.

In his *Leben und Werk* (Life and work) he says decidedly: "Even the cover of books can be brought in to the cause of agitation in a new form. We said that there were many people who look at books without ever buying them, therefore every single book should be effective from the point of view of its appearance as well as what it says inside. Even when

the book is in a bookcase it should pose as a challenge — as food for thought as an encouragement to read the work."

Anyone today who sees Andreas Weber's cover for Ernst Niekiß's *Hitler — ein deutsches Verhängnis* (Hitler — Germany's destiny), dark masses marching Nazi party members, rising from the mass of brown-shirted groups with hands raised in the salute, will still be stricken with horror. From this warning dated 1932 there is the history of Germany between 1933 and 1945.

It would have been impossible to get on all these jackets from the history of German book publishing if it had not been for Curt Tillmann with his collection of book covers which he gave to the German Literature Archive at the Schiller National Museum in Marbach.

Tillmann is still collecting. His collection today comprises about 70,000 books and about 3,500 original designs. Only a small selection of this can be shown in Marbach. In fact it is only one hundredth of the Tillmann collection and is limited to the first half of the century.

The catalogue is excellently edited. Gertrud Fiege and Walter Schellert contains perhaps the most extensive bibliography of jacket designers ever compiled. This, too, is thanks to Curt Tillmann.

The charm of this exhibition continues until 31 October in the museum.

A number of publications that appeared for the first time between 1895 and 1900 proved to be the precursors for the now popular book jacket. The *Angewandte Kunst* that wanted to present everything in an artistic form that could be presented in a form at all was so hot about book products that it nearly caught fire.

A similar thing happened to caricatures after the style of *Simplicissimus* and which Leo Trotzky wrote in 1934: "When *Simplicissimus* got up in it about the morals of the petty-bourgeois market, it was successful, very successful and fell a victim to this."

And nevertheless it was the per publications at the beginning of the century that paved the way for the designs on the front of books.

This was one of the impulses towards this new means of expression for art along with the newly discovered art of posters that had come from France.

Toulouse-Lautrec gave a starter. Jules Chéret, known as the father of advertising posters, carried it through. Chéret and his erotic wit came to the world of book advertising. Max Slevogt threw in his shrill fantasies and Thomas Theodor Heine brought the uncanny into play.

Publishers demanded more and more from graphic artists. At the outset the jacket was only intended to protect the book from dust and from fading. Later

Continued on page 7

Gustave Flaubert



November

Book jacket on left by Thomas Theodor Heine (1898) and on the right by Walter Tillman (1977) (Photos: Katalog)

READING

Book trade still has to rely on door-to-door salesman

The subject is so complex that all aspects of it must be given thorough consideration," State Secretary von Boetticher from the Ministry of the Interior told the Reichstag eighty years ago during a debate on a bill planning to restrict door-to-door and hire-purchase book sales.

The law was not passed and the problem put off to another day.

Today a new hire-purchase law is again being discussed and although the system of direct sales through door-to-door salesmen has been developed much further the debate is as violent as it was in the German Empire.

Even the same arguments are being used. State Secretary von Boetticher is still right — the matter does require thorough consideration.

The treatment of the whole issue often leaves something to be desired. Newspaper headlines always draw the reader's attention to the "evil tricks" and "deceitful practices" employed by salesmen.

It is then all too easy for a reader to demand that door-to-door selling should be abolished by law, even though the profession of representative is being overgeneralised and portrayed in a far from friendly light.

Examples of unfair selling practices can still be found although we have outgrown the belief prevalent in the fifties and sixties that the customer was fair game.

Consumers show greater mistrust these days and are more aware of their rights. Firms too wish to keep their noses clean as they have recognised that an accumulation of grievances can only lead to the whole profession of salesman being painted black.

Firms have recognised that a salesman's career is becoming less and less attractive and that potential customers are showing more and more distrust of a man who comes calling at their door.

After all, they have recognised that a direct customer is not much use to them as he will not be very reliable.

Let us take the example of book-clubs that obtain most of their clients via door-to-door salesmen. A member only stays to become profitable for them after twelve months at the very least.

Members who opt out as soon as possible are no more than an economic burden on the companies. Members who remain soon after signing the contract that they were forced into it are also a burden.

For this reason a number of firms have adopted various measures to check the

Continued from page 6

was designed as part of the décor of the book. Then it became part of the advertising for the book.

Later still it was designed to awaken the interest of the potential purchaser in the book. Even later the cover of the book was provided with press reviews, extracts of text from the book, information about the author and publicity.

The illustrated book cover of today is designed as window dressing for what is inside the book. It wants to bring home to those who do not open the book. All kinds of artistic style are used for this purpose.

Good book jackets are seducers. Excellent jacket designs are so seductive that they can lead to a change of identities.

Kurt Tucholsky once said: "If I were not Tucholsky I would like to be a Malik Verlag jacket design." Helmut Braem (Kölnischer Stadt-Anzeiger, 31 July 1971)

work of their representatives as they hawk their wares from door to door.

The files run by the Subscriber Enrolment Working Group provide the firms with a type of self-protection. All members of the working group, originally formed as the Working Commission of the Periodical Publishers Association and the Book and Periodical Trade Association, are obliged to dismiss at once any representative employing unfair methods and to submit his name to the group's headquarters. They are also barred from employing any representative included on the black list.

Selling directly through door-to-door representatives raises specific problems for the book trade more than any other retail branch. Books are not a commodity for which there is or is not a basic need. The demand for books is not at all widespread.

It has sometimes been looked upon as part of the task of education to help broad sections of the population on the path towards reading habits as they would not embark on this course of their own accord.

This informative aspect stood in the foreground when most of the book-clubs still existing today, or their predecessors, were set up after the First World War. "Books for the people" and "Knowledge is Power" were the slogans of the time.

It was only sensible not to wait until more and more people entered a bookshop of their own accord. We still talk today of the lack of self-confidence which stops people from passing the threshold of a bookshop.

It can be taken for almost certain that the majority of the four million book-club members in the Federal Republic are newly-won readers who would not have been captured so quickly by the ordinary retail trade.

Book-clubs grant reductions of anything up to forty per cent of the normal retail price of a book. Reductions of this size are only possible when they know that they will have a firm number of subscribers.

Max Repschliger, managing director of the Federal Association of Mail-Order Book Retailers, provides another argument in favour of book-clubs and door-to-door salesman.

In an article written for a book dealing with this country's book trade he states, "There are some 25,000 townships in the Federal Republic but only four thousand bookshops. As there are a large number of towns with more than one bookshop, there are practically 23,000 communities without bookshops. Their inhabitants are forced to travel or use a mail-order service if they want to buy a book."

Selling books through salesmen is therefore an important way to reach potential readers who would not otherwise be in a position to buy books. Door-to-door sales will become indispensable if bookshops die out for ever.

There remains the fact that nobody can be forced to educate himself. Max Repschliger states that the Federal Court of Justice recently decided that "fraud can be proved when a consumer is induced to order printed products that do not correspond to his level of education".

New Böll novel shows love in war

wonderfully moving way sometimes reminiscent of Dostoyevsky how a person can become human in the midst of death and terror.

Wreath-maker Leni pours soldier Boris a cup of coffee only to have it struck out of her hand. She washes it ("as if it were a holy chalice"), refills it and brings it once again to the Russian.

This was a dangerous act in the winter of 1943 and 1944, a political act that could lead to a person's execution. But Leni dares it.

A witness reports, "Boris was made human, declared a human, by Leni's courageous act — and that was despite all the awful things that were yet to come."

These "awful things", pursued by Böll with sharp eye and biting satire through all the byways of corruption and unscrupulous black-marketeering, fill more than two-thirds of the excellently composed novel.

Yet these shocking events of a realistically described age do not give the book its special flavour. What differentiates Böll from other novelists of our time is his Christian commitment.

Leni, the heroine of the novel, is described right down to the smallest detail but she still remains surrounded by an air of mystery.

She could be called a worldly saint. She is filled by a powerful love that can penetrate the hardest armour. She is a mother to scorned minorities. At the end auxiliary workers flock around her to prevent the much-troubled heroine from being evicted from her home.

Heinrich Böll: 'Gruppenbild mit Dame' (Group Photo with a Lady). Published by Klempner and Witsch of Cologne. Four hundred pages. 25 Marks.

In mind from writing a novel set in the present and incorporating social criticism. Böll wants to show what it is that enables people to tolerate life despite all suffering, meanness, betrayal and shabby profiteering.

In short passages Böll depicts in a

Book-clubs robbed this argument of all its substance a long time ago when they added records and games to their stock of books which can incidentally range from between 25 and 700 titles.

Works offered are not always the most demanding reading either. The real best-sellers of our book trade, thanks to the book-clubs that sell far more copies of them than normal bookshops, are works such as Margaret Mitchell's *Gone With the Wind*, Anne Golon's *Angélique* series and Annemarie Selinko's *Desirée*.

Knowing this fact, it will be realised that the books offered do not demand too much from readers. Unfortunately this means that the informative aspect is being rather neglected.

The situation is different with publishers of dictionaries, works of reference or specialist literature. A large number of these productions would never get off the ground if it were not for the salesmen canvassing for purchasers or subscribers.

These books require not only publicity and a large turnover to cover the costs of production. They also require relatively steady sales.

No bookshop would be able to guarantee this today and neither the publishers nor the booksellers could afford the costs arising from a long period of storage.

If distribution were to be solely via the bookshops instead of through the various channels employed today the relatively expensive door-to-door selling would not become cheaper but would rise and rise. Moreover, dictionaries and reference works do not start making a profit until new editions are printed.

If door-to-door selling were to be restricted in this field as in others it would mean that we would have to do without most dictionaries, works of reference and expensive specialist literature.

The German Democratic Republic provides a good example of this. Door-to-door selling is banned there and there are no encyclopaedias. Elke Trappschuh (Handelsblatt, 2 August 1971)



Heinrich Böll (Photo: dpa)

Heinrich Böll once said he was trying to find a "habitable language in a habitable country". Political events during the Nazi era and post-war developments appear to him as a constant eviction.

He sees all the Federal Republic's literature as an "attempt to create" a habitable language and a habitable country after this eviction and this destruction of neighbourliness.

Gruppenbild mit Dame provides in outline a picture of the present as well as the past and depicts its largely intolerant and inhumane society. Read in this way it could help to make the world in which we live more habitable or at least more tolerable. Thematically it is the Böll of old. In technique, it is the result of a long career as a writer.

Kurt Lothar Tank (Welt am Sonntag, 1 August 1971)

EDUCATION

Frankfurt playground scheme wows the kids

Köln Stadt-Anzeiger

The grounds of the Frankfurt Trade Fair are being put to a completely different use. The city's children have taken over the main hall and large exhibition hall which are normally the meeting-places of economists and industrialists from all over the world.

Thousands of them flock there daily for model-making, to play music, stage plays, play games, let off steam or just do nothing. No one pushes them or orders them about. Nothing is forbidden during what the city's school authorities call the most adventurous holidays in Frankfurt.

This giant children's playground has been named the "Children's Planet". Children are allowed to do here what is not allowed anywhere else. The very name — selected from suggestions made in a children's competition — is indicative of this fact.

The winner of the competition is an eight-year-old girl who chose the name because she wanted children to behave in the halls as if they alone lived on the planet. Parents have no place on this children's planet.

Her wish is exactly what the organisers, a working group from an Offenbach college and the Frankfurt school authorities wanted.

They believe that children can only develop freely when they can choose what they want to do without restriction, rules or orders. The children must enjoy themselves — that is the only thing that counts.

Time has shown that this idea was right even though it did not seem as if it would be at the beginning. Four thousand children stormed the trade fair grounds

on the first day and took possession of what was there. Six thousand turned up on the second day.

But disappointment lay in store for those people believing that the children would put the tools, musical instruments and sports equipment to serious use. The children's reaction to this unaccustomed freedom was nothing but aggressive.

The abandoned cars parked for their use on the grounds were soon reduced to scrap. The children played "accidents", allowing the cars to ram each other. They then set to work with sticks and stones.

They attacked an old helicopter with large battering rams. Most of the tin cans for use as water receptacles in the paint shop were stamped flat under the deafening impact of hammers.

Thousands of children spent the whole day ridding themselves of their pent-up feelings of aggression. Good social conduct was nowhere evident. "It was soon seen why this was not possible, however.

Those parents who had come along with their children might not have reacted with the same aggression as their children but their behaviour was just as antisocial.

Confronted by the equipment supplied for the children's use, they seized hold of the plastic buckets and hoddalls also provided for the children, filled them full to the brim with tools and materials and simply took them home.

The turbulence of the first few days aroused a storm of protest and the Christian Democrat opposition on the city council gladly took the worried parents' part.

One mother phoned the city authorities complaining that the whole idea was a disgrace and not at all what she and her husband had expected. "The way things are now," she concluded, "you can only send your children there once. They wouldn't go willingly a second time."



Education advisory centres

In a recent survey conducted in the Federal Republic it was revealed that there is one education advisory centre for every 250,000 inhabitants. These centres give advice and treat children suffering from speech impediments, dyslexia and other speech disorders.

But the fears expressed during the first few days soon proved unfounded. Much of the material had disappeared or been destroyed in the initial period of aggression but the children soon began to make the best use of what was left.

They used barrels, shelving and beams to build little huts on the trade fair grounds, often embellishing them with flags.

Of course the public soon got upset once again. The boys and girls took the necessary material for their flags from the "dress shop" inside the children's planet where it was being used for the imaginative costumes worn by those taking part in theatre work.

As the only material available was red, the flags they hoisted were also red. The children saw nothing special in this. It was left to adults to read in it a deeper significance.

But the children soon gained their

revenge. It is a shame that the adults are not always able to attend the theatre where the adult world was criticised and criticised with biting satire. The children also made up songs that were extremely critical of adults.

Frankfurt's school authorities provided 150,000 Marks for the experiment to believe that it was a success. "As far as we are concerned, this experiment can be repeated next year," a spokesman said. Time will tell whether the city authorities have learned anything from any children's playgrounds to be built in the future.

Whatever the case, the children's planet provided Frankfurt's children with a number of completely new experiences that they made use of in their own way. A Robinson Crusoe playground is now being built in the northwestern suburbs of the city.

Ulrich Naeff
(Köln Stadt-Anzeiger, 30 July 1971)

Stuttgart gives go ahead for better school for foreign workers' children

We have arrived safely. My name is Mira. My name is Nico. Nico and Mira, two gaily-painted red-cheeked youngsters, will soon help foreign workers' children in the Federal Republic to improve their knowledge of German and thus have a better education and better career prospects.

The Baden-Württemberg Education Ministry has given the go-ahead for a broadly-based experiment in the Federal state that may prove a pace-setter for the rest of the country.

Foreign children resident in Baden-Württemberg have had to attend school there since 1964. Compulsory attendance regulations will be adhered to more strictly from the beginning of the new school year this autumn. The education authorities there have adopted measures that are unique in the Federal Republic.

Nico and Mira are the main characters in an educational programme developed by the Horst Erdmann publishing house of Tübingen at the instigation of the Education Ministry in Stuttgart, the capital of the Federal state.

The equipment includes a basic textbook, a work-book beginning with the words "We have arrived safely", a teacher's guide, test sheets, demonstration boards, puppets and tapes.

Foreign children will in future learn German as quickly as possible so that they can spend their life in this country free from divisive linguistic barriers that can drive them into ghettos.

They will also be incorporated into classes with local children as soon as

possible as classes run on national lines do not usually give as good an education.

New laws have now been adopted to change previous methods. Up to now the 5,426 foreign children in Baden-Württemberg have been divided into 158 classes depending on their nationality. Here they learn enough German to be able to attend classes with local children.

In future there will be more preparatory classes of this type if they are needed but they will not be run on national lines.

Direct method teaching will be adopted as experts believe this is the best way to prepare children of various linguistic groups intensively and quickly for lessons in German. There will be few exceptions to the German-only rule.

Direct method teaching means that most value is placed on speech. There will be no translation from the children's mother tongue. There will be no isolated grammar lessons. German grammar will be taught from examples encountered during conversation classes.

Colloquial speech will be taught so that the children can also talk outside their lessons. During class the children will be able to make the two puppets Nico and Mira speak. This should help them over-

come their inhibitions and fear of making mistakes. Daily situations will be acted and the children provided with the relevant German idioms.

The method's inventors are convinced that foreign children from six to fourteen — divided into three groups dependent on age — will be able to speak German so perfectly after fifteen lessons a week for a year that they will no longer be at any great disadvantage when attending classes with local children.

Additional courses will be arranged for children who still have language difficulties in spite of these preparatory classes.

The latest scheme represents a great improvement over past methods as rural areas will find it easier to arrange preparatory classes of this type now that the children no longer need be divided up into nationalities.

At present 130 teachers are being trained for work with this method and the new teaching material it involves.

Another new and up to now unique measure adopted by Baden-Württemberg is that foreign children who would otherwise have to attend a technical college type institution but are released from this obligation because of their linguistic

difficulties will be forced to attend classes giving them tuition in German.

The language courses given in a mother tongue to those children whose parents wish it will continue as before. At present there are 326 such courses in Baden-Württemberg.

The reason Baden-Württemberg is so concerned about foreign children and their education is that one foreign child in three in the Federal Republic, or more exactly 31.1 per cent, live in this Federal state. A further 28 per cent live in North-Rhine Westphalia.

Today there are some 41,000 foreign children attending school in Baden-Württemberg including 2,300 at high schools and 930 at other secondary schools and 1,000 at special schools for the backward.

Four per cent of all elementary school pupils in the Federal state are the children of foreign workers. In Mannheim and Stuttgart this figure sometimes rises as high as thirty per cent.

Another step has been taken by the Education Ministry in Stuttgart concerning the education of these children. In June it commissioned the Educational Advisory Centre in the Swabian town of Balingen to draw up a "qualitative psychological motive study" on the attitude of foreign workers and their children to the German language.

Hundreds of foreign worker families will be asked what they do about school for their children, their language problems and what hopes and ideas they have for the future.

Wolfgang-Dietrich Zöllner
(Frankfurter Rundschau, 26 July 1971)

HEALTH

Pathologist investigates serving soldiers' smoking habits

Professor Hans Georg Fassbender, head of the Armed Forces Institute for Applied and Experimental Pathology in Bonn, resignedly said: "It is astounding how enlightened people are, but nothing can put the fear of God into smokers."

He was commenting on the results of a recent survey which was conducted to check the smoking habits of 5,000 soldiers serving with the 7th Armoured Division in Westwall. The survey was the first of its kind, and the most extensive ever organised in Europe.

Professor Fassbender's despair can be understood after a consideration of the results of the survey.

Despite the fact that 2,998 of those questioned believed that smoking caused cancer, 2,424 that it caused stomach disorders, 2,073 that it caused headaches and 1,662 believed that smoking had some connection with heart attacks, sixty per cent of these men claimed to be regular smokers, fifteen per cent smoked occasionally and only 25 per cent were non-smokers.

The soldiers questioned also believed that smoking caused sore throats, damage to the blood vessels, tiredness, infections to the lungs and loss of memory. 156 soldiers were of the opinion that smoking caused childlessness.

As many as 1,850 soldiers related their views on smoking to illnesses and pains they had themselves suffered. Among these coughing and headaches were mentioned the most frequently. Then came stomach pains, trembling of the hands, difficulty with breathing, nervousness, heart pains and diarrhoea. In 28 cases smoking was cited as causing constipation. Altogether 3,698 various aches and pains were listed.

How indifferent the smoker's attitudes are is exemplified by the answers that were given to the question: "Why do people smoke?" Only 1,071 replied that they smoked for pleasure. Other answers included boredom and nervousness. 646 soldiers said that they were "addicted". Non-smokers as well as habitual and occasional smokers — more than fifty per

cent of those questioned — said that smokers were basically people with a weak will.

To the question: "Is smoking a sign of activity, worldliness, manliness, elegance, sportiness, intelligence?" less than ten per cent of all three groups answered with a yes.

Willpower, according to the soldier's opinions, is the most important factor involved in giving up smoking for good. Illness comes a long way behind in second place in this consideration. Only ten per cent were willing to give up smoking because of price increases.

As regards prices, if cigarettes were to cost twice as much 819 soldiers of the group questioned would give up smoking, if prices increased by 50 per cent then 817 would smoke only half as much and 205 would smoke only three quarters of the cigarettes they smoke now.

But 1,939 claimed that an increase in the price of cigarettes would not affect their smoking habits at all.

An indication of the relationship between price and the number of cigarettes bought was clearly shown by the answers to the question: "How many cigarettes would you smoke were the prices to be cut by a half?"

A surprising 3,560 soldiers said that they would continue to smoke the same number, only 120 said they would smoke about twice as much and 42 men said they would smoke more than twice as much. The survey revealed that 291 of the soldiers questioned were less than 10 years old when they had their first "flag". Between 16 and 17 they developed their dependence on smoking, possibly because at that age it is "allowed" to smoke in public. As many as 1,741 said that at this age they began to smoke regularly five cigarettes a day, or more.

The majority, 1,507, said they smoked between 10 and 19 cigarettes a day now, and 1,149 soldiers said they smoked between 20 and 29. More than two-thirds said they inhaled.

Of those questioned in the survey, 2,654 believed that smoking led to

reduced performance whilst only 287 believed that smoking increased a man's performance generally. Many of the smokers, 3,218, spoke of the calming qualities associated with cigarettes, but they also referred to losing weight and loss of appetite.

Professor Hans Georg Fassbender regards his survey as indicating that far-reaching measures for health education are needed in the armed forces. He said: "Basically we are responsible for our soldiers." Efforts to influence soldiers have had little effect. Only 28 per cent of those who took part in the survey were, according to their statements, advised by anyone against smoking. It is essential that especially during their military service soldiers should be given a better image of the non-smoker.

Five per cent of those questioned began to smoke on joining the armed forces and 31 per cent claimed that they smoked more than they did before, when they joined the forces.

Walter Druhm
(Vorwärts, 29 July 1971)

Music calms the rumbles of an unhappy stomach

Professor Ludwig Demling, head of the Erlangen University clinic, stated in an article published in *Umschau in Wissenschaft und Technik*, that listening to music affects the acid content of the stomach juices.

He discovered that Mozart's *Eine Kleinere Nachtmusik*, Beethoven's 5th Symphony and vocal pop music noticeably cut down the production of digestive juices and hydrochloric acid.

This was particularly noticeable in the case of people who were bothered by beat music. On the other hand Mozart and Beethoven lovers' production of stomach juices was more markedly reduced than that of people who were indifferent to these composers to such an extent that they fell asleep. These differences were described as "statistically insignificant".

The volume of the music played was appropriate for the works. In the case of Mozart it was 70 decibels (German standard), for Beethoven 80 and for the beat music 95.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 30 July 1971)

Health risks of smoking are underestimated

When filter cigarettes came in with a bang in the fifties this new kind of smoke was vaunted as the great protector of smokers' health. With success.

Smokers were only too willing to believe in the simple slogan that what is caught in the filter cannot get into the lungs and they assumed that their bronchial passages were being spared the sticky brown distillate of tar and nicotine.

But they were disappointed. In 1958 a spokesman for the American government stated frankly: "American cigarette manufacturers have disappointed the general public with their advertising campaigns concerning filter-tip cigarettes. The smoke of most filter-tip cigarettes contains as much if not more nicotine as cigarettes without filters."

Writing in the medical magazine *Selecta* Professor Schmidt maintains: "The cigarette industry knows that if a cigarette is filtered too heavily it begins to taste straw-like, inducing the smoker to change to another brand. Isolating nicotine and tar is technically difficult and when it is achieved the cigarette's aroma suffers."

So it follows that when a cigarette is produced with its nicotine content reduced and becomes a "health cigarette" it would not be very successful commercially. Professor Schmidt says: "It is the nicotine content of a cigarette that attracts the smoker — often without him knowing the danger he runs. A cigarette without nicotine is like a car without petrol. There is little to be achieved by producing a cigarette with a reduced nicotine content.

Dr Karl Karrer, a cancer expert from Vienna, states: "It is worthwhile using filters. With filters there is no doubt that the toxic extent the dangerous effects of

A hardened smoker, used to an intake of a certain amount of nicotine would, often without being aware of this, increase his cigarette consumption to make up the diminished nicotine intake."

Professor Schmidt criticised Federal Republic agencies for not having taken the anti-smoking battle more seriously.

He concedes that the Health Ministry has paid considerable attention to the problem but he continues: "Käte Strobel has not yet succeeded in inducing her Cabinet colleagues (many of them smokers) not to appear on television along with members of the Opposition smoking, acting thereby as an advertisement for cigarettes."

Professor Schmidt made another point that is all too frequently neglected. He said: "People say today that hashish is a drug that is increasingly becoming used to cause addiction. But the real drug that is becoming more and more popular is not hashish but the cigarette."

When it is remembered that more than 50,000 people in this country, Professor Schmidt points out, die as a result of smoking cigarettes — and there is no doubt that this is a modest estimate — the basic question asked by scientists is justified: "What must happen before this danger is taken seriously and something is done about it."

Edith Ruthy/PAM
(Frankfurter Rundschau, 3 August 1971)

Girls from abroad give up their holidays for social work in Cologne

Köln Stadt-Anzeiger

Almost one hundred girls from Switzerland, America, Britain, Italy, The Netherlands and West Germany are giving up their own holidays so that others can take a holiday. During their holidays these girls work in Cologne hospitals, old people's homes and kindergartens in order to relieve pressing staff shortages. The helpers were welcomed to Cologne by the Lady Mayoress, Else Schmitt, in the Town Hall.

This is the first time that this kind of aid has been organised in cooperation with the international Kolping organisation, the Federal Republic social service organisation and the international social service organisation.

The project will be in effect from July until the end of September.

At the moment fifteen Swiss girls are working in Cologne. Thanks to the intensive efforts of the Swiss branch of the Kolping organisation it is expected that the total number of Swiss girls who will have worked in Cologne by the end of September will be 100.

Next year it is hoped to attract girls from other countries, particularly West Germany.

The Kolping organisation and the social services organisation appeal to girls who are 18 and above and either undergoing a course of training or have already embarked on a career. It was decided to do without younger girls because their lack of experience would require a training period that would take up too much time before they could be employed on social services work.

What motivates these foreign girls to come to work during holidays in Germany? Hanneli Hübner, 19, from Rorschach on Lake Constance is of the view that it is not all that interesting to do as the others do and go trotting round the world. She said: "When one is committed, one meets other people more."

She works in the Hildegardis Hospital, where she serves, washes up and tidies up and she claims that she gets something out of this work.

Hanneli, a trainee home tutor, takes it for granted that she is not paid for her work. Only board and lodging is offered free. On the contrary she says: "I prefer not to be paid. I don't find we are biting off more than we can chew."

Agnes Kappeli, 18, from Lucerne, also works at the Hildegardis Hospital. She also agrees. She is the youngest of the five Swiss girls who work in the hospital. She is halfway through a secretarial course. The three others who work with her in the hospital, on the other hand, have already taken up jobs as home tutor, a kindergarten teacher and an instructor in a commercial school.

Agnes Kappeli said: "I am prepared to do any kind of work." And she wants to see something of Cologne. She said: "As soon as we have some free time we go out to see as much as we can."

Asked how many hours she had to work in the hospital she smiled and said: "I have not counted up the hours."

Bringing trays, taking away trays, making beds — all these are jobs that for the two holiday weeks she does not complain about.

The staff nurses at the hospital are delighted. "Replacements of this sort are a great help," the matron of the Hildegardis Hospital said.

Margret Müller
(Köln Stadt-Anzeiger, 30 July 1971)

INDUSTRY

In three years Vogelsang has transformed Krupp

DIE ZEIT

Krupp has been given a good polishing up and is now bright and gleaming. Three years after the crisis which shook the company to its foundations Chairman of the Board Günter Vogelsang was able to announce contentedly and with a high degree of self-confidence: "The three-year phase of consolidation which we planned for the years 1968 to 1970 ran to schedule and has now come to an end."

But Herr Vogelsang, who was brought in to the company by the last of the Krupp dynasty Alfred Krupp von Bohlen und Halbach shortly before his death in July 1967 on the advice of his company manager Berthold Beitz was being too modest.

Herr Vogelsang, who joined Krupp in Essen from Mannesmann, has brought the iron and steel empire from the edge of disaster to a healthy profit-making position within the space of three years. In his first year of office the company losses were 24,100,000 Marks. By 1970 Krupp's were enjoying a profit on the year of 110 million Marks. Herr Vogelsang did not want to discuss earlier figures — for a start he was not responsible for them and secondly he was quite prepared to let bygones be bygones.

Günter Vogelsang will be quite happy if he can embark on his third aim after restoration of solvency and removal of the sources of loss-making ahead of schedule, namely an improvement to the basis of self-financing.

Krupp's top manager came to Essen via a post in an economic assessor's office, Schleier Wharves in Hamburg. Krupp for the first time, Mannesmann and then back to Krupp. He listened to what the pessimists had to say when he rejoined the ailing firm and then made liars of them all.

The dismal Jimmies had prophesied that the firm which had been taken over from the Krupp family and turned into a joint-stock company would not be paying any taxes before 1972, if then. As a matter of fact payments to the taxman increased from 59 million Marks in 1968 to 131 million in 1970.

And the foundation which is the sole proprietor of Fried. Krupp GmbH (basic capital of 500 million Marks) following the death of Alfred Krupp, can view the future with much greater optimism.

In 1970 Herr Vogelsang transferred five million Marks to the foundation following two years in which it had to be content with the statutory minimum of two million Marks.

And for 1971 Herr Vogelsang has told Berthold Beitz, the Chairman of the Advisory Board and at the same time the Administrator of the Krupp Stiftung, that the same amount should be forthcoming.

Günter Vogelsang is making it his top priority to get the company back on to a firm basis again. One of the main requirements is an increase in the company's powers to finance its own investments.

In 1970 when turnover was 7,190 million Marks the firm was only able to provide 732 million Marks towards its investments, 13.3 per cent of its balance, an unusually small percentage even in a branch of German industry that is not much used to having an excess of capital for reinvestment.

Thus, Günter Vogelsang never tires of repeating that his main aim is to make a sufficient profit for greater reinvestment.

The past crisis is not the first that has struck the house of Krupp. This was its sixth crisis.

* Only fifteen years after the company was founded Friedrich Krupp left debts of 10,000 Reichsthaler at his death in 1826.

* In 1856 his son Alfred had to bring in new shareholders who brought with them capital of 250,000 Thaler to refloat the company. It was not till the 1870's that they received a dividend.

* In 1874 the Krupp concern was mortgaged for 30 million Marks.

* By the end of the 1920's, when the world economic crisis came, only about one half of the workers who had been with Krupp still had jobs and they were working short time of about three days in a week. In 1932 company losses were about thirty million Marks.

* In 1945 Alfred Krupp was arrested and twelve years imprisonment as a war criminal at Nuremberg. He actually served six years. His property should have been confiscated but the American High Commissioner John McCloy revised this part of the judgment in 1953 since he viewed the bases of the Krupp trial differently from the Nuremberg Tribunal. Nor was the Krupp property split up with the coal mining sector being cut off from the iron and steel production. This was largely because the parts of the company that were to be put up for sale for about one thousand million Marks did not find a willing purchaser.

The sixth and latest crisis for Krupp came during the recession of 1966/67.



Günter Vogelsang
(Photo: Krupp)

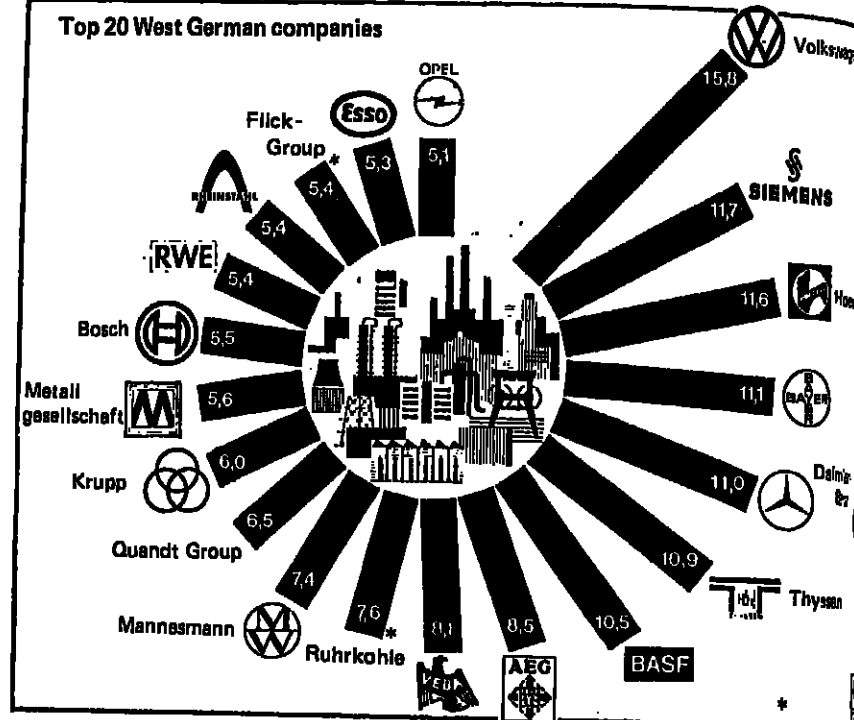
People have often puzzled how serious this crisis really was.

Some suggested that without a State and bank guarantee of more than 400 million Marks Krupp's could not have been saved, while others, including Berthold Beitz, assumed that because of the alacrity with which the company hauled itself out of the mire there was no actual crisis, but merely a shortage of liquid cash.

Reaching a definite conclusion is made more difficult since Krupp's as a family concern up till 1967 was not obliged to publish its affairs and in fact did not come clean to any great extent.

Nevertheless it has been mooted that in the two years before the crisis Krupp's lost between 100 and 150 million Marks. This has been neither confirmed nor denied by those in the know.

Apart from a few flourishing years



FRG has 31 firms in the European top hundred

The Federal Republic has 31 representative companies in this year's list of the hundred largest firms in Europe and has for the first time caught up with Britain, which also scores 31.

Newcomers to the top hundred are the holding companies of the family concern Quandt and Flick. Two other new names from the Federal Republic are Heilmann and Klöckner-Humboldt-Deutz.

Unlike last year there are no alterations to the positions in the top eight. The differential between turnover in that eight was so great that even an increase of 22 per cent (chucked up by Siemens) did not lead to an improvement of position.

In the next few years the two Anglo-Dutch giants Royal Dutch/Shell and Unilever are not likely to find their positions challenged. The distance between them and below them to the number three company is far too great. It is not likely that the gap could be closed in the short-run. Only major mergers could change the situation radically.

Lower down the chart there were some positional changes that were due to mergers. Last year the Swiss chemical firm Geigy was in 84th position and its rival Ciba at No. 87. This year the companies well below the Swiss chemical champions Hoffmann-La Roche. This year, however, following the merger of Geigy and Ciba the new company has shot up to position number 34. It is now the second largest of all Swiss concerns after the chocolate and food firm Nestlé.

The French chemicals firm Rhône-Poulenc climbed from 56th to 54th place after its merger with Poulenc Mousson.

Other companies showed great positional changes. Ford of Great Britain dropped ten places. And the large British motor firm British Leyland Motors Corporation dropped two places. Both companies have been ravaged by strike which have knocked chunks off the turnover. But despite strike troubles Ford has managed to climb two places.

French car firms had mixed fortunes with regard to turnover in the year. Renault climbed from nineteenth to sixteenth place while Citroën crashed thirteen places! Peugeot stayed static in the same position as last year.

A look at the type of company in the top hundred showed that the chemical firms have the most representatives, but must be remembered that many chemicals firms have their fingers in other parts of the economy.

(Die Zeit, 6 August 1971)

Continued on page 11

TAXATION

Bonn's proposed tax reform plans only scratch the surface

Planners and reforming zealots are at work at present. Scarcely a week goes by without some new suggestions and demands for fiscal reforms being advanced. Meantime the political parties, the government and various associations, commissions and committees have had their say on the subject.

At the moment it has scarcely been possible to relate all these suggestions to one common denominator. Ideas about how the tax system of the future can be made more just and purposeful diverge enormously.

But there is one point on which a broad sweep of economic experts are agreed now, namely that a tax system where the

high income earners are made to pay up the most is the most just.

The originators of this country's income tax who first introduced it exactly eighty years ago in Prussia would collapse with shock if they came back to Earth and saw today's taxmen arguing whether the top rate should be 56 or even sixty per cent.

When income tax was first introduced in 1891 the starting rate was 0.66 per cent rising to a maximum of four per cent. For a long time afterwards it was generally considered that an income tax of more than ten per cent would be like government banditry.

Today no one denies that the more you earn the more you should contribute towards State finances. In fact the greatest danger is of going to the other extreme. For the thesis that income tax is fairer if it gets progressively higher as incomes rise and the higher the top rate is, can be shown on closer examination not to be watertight.

Taxes are designed to tax the high income earner more heavily, but do not take into account the manner in which he has earned this high income. But it can be shown that the greater number of those who have a high income from their main profession have to put in longer hours, expend more energy and endanger their health far more than the man in the low income bracket.

Whereas the number of hours in the standard working week for most jobs has declined in recent years the amount of work put in in the free professions (medicine, the law, etc.) has hardly decreased at all.

For the man who holds all the responsibility and a leading position in industry, trade or politics a sixty-hour week is a normal occurrence. A free weekend is far more seldom forthcoming.

It would therefore be fairer, though far less practical, to take for tax purposes not the monthly income as a whole but the income per working hour instead.

Of course it is not always the sheer joy of working that leads to a high output in professions where the pay is high. It is often essential to have a high degree of creativity and the wear and tear on nerves can be very great. The period in which a top salary is paid is, however, comparatively short.

Not only that, but when the professional man is working and earning in top gear he must at the same time be making provision for his old age. For the self-employed State old-age insurance is not yet available.

Much of what the new man Vogelsang said obviously sounded like criticism of the previous management.

Günter Vogelsang's concept was: hard work, clear aims and no theorising about employment. He said: "Genius is ten per cent inspiration and ninety per cent perspiration."

He already has the turnover, investment and yield figures for his company up till 1971 in the bag. Among his first changes were to streamline the company, reorganise it into six branches and to create a planning staff.

Today the heads of the various departments have to feed the planning staff with data about their future work. This will be processed into a report on the future of the concern in greater detail.

The aim of all this planning is clear. Vogelsang is out to find the capital for investment so that crises like that of 1967 do not recur. Part of this plan is to turn the company from a GmbH (limited company) to an AG (joint-stock company) which may involve issuing new shares.

By this aim is not so important as achieving the Krupp Foundation in Günter Vogelsang's view. He said: "When capital flows into the company the wealth of the Foundation increases."

Wolfgang Müller-Haaseler
(Die Zeit, 6 August 1971)

manhours, but often a case of great responsibility — for instance a country doctor.

And the greater part of those who do earn well above the national average do not even start earning until well after those whose jobs require little or no training.

Anyone who leaves school or an apprenticeship at eighteen and starts wage-earning then can run up as much as one hundred thousand Marks in income more than the man whose training ends and career begins at thirty by the time that man is ready to start working. The taxman takes no account of this.

These are all factors to which the present income-tax system pays little heed. From the administrative point of view this is not possible. The way to make the tax system fairer would be if it were possible to make a man's total life's earning the basis for taxation.

Nevertheless points of view such as this must be taken into consideration whenever discussion turns to the scale of taxation on income and the level at which the maximum rate must be paid.

In the face of these problems certain consumer taxes would appear fairer than income taxes. For instance the use of materials that damage the environment, such as petrol, justifies a high level of taxation.

In fact with the oft-mentioned general poverty compared with private wealth in mind it may well be time to consider replacing the taxes on what you earn with more "socially justifiable" taxes on what you spend.

Ideas of this kind have been expressed in the taxation plans devised by the SPD's Eppler Commission. In this respect these plans are more progressive than those conceived by the government in which there are scarcely any new ideas.

New ideas must also be found with regard to death duties. These are taxes where it is obviously fairer to make the burden progressively greater the higher the amount of money involved. If we are to live in a society that is fair and just there must be some provision to make sure that no one gets a large sum of money suddenly without ever having to lift a finger to obtain it.

In addition to this it should be noted that often an inheritance does not endow children so much with wealth as economic power. This is a relic from the feudal days.

If a genuine tax reform is to be introduced in this direction then we must

Economy continues to cool off

Munich's economic research institute Ifo predicts that in the second half of this year consumer spending will increase far less rapidly than in the first six months of 1971.

The increase in the amount of money available for purchases will continue to level off. It is reckoned that already a larger proportion of this free money is being saved than before.

Ifo foresees that the slackening off of consumer demand will bring with it a smaller increase in productivity. In these circumstances it seems likely that the process of relaxation of economic tensions that grew weaker in the winter and spring months will be strengthened again as the economic brakes are applied.

As over-employment decreases there should be less of a push for higher wages. The institute is of the opinion that the

levelling off of wage increases coupled with a drop in demand from home and abroad will lead to developments with regard to prices that "correspond better" to the concept of stable prices.

But for the consumer prices are likely to go on rising at the same rate. And Ifo forecasts that if our economic policy comes under the sway of those economic forces in the EEC that are calling for the parity of the Mark to be fixed again in the foreseeable future the whole matter of stabilisation will be open to question.

The results of Ifo's tests on the economic cycle in June show that the process of relaxation of economic tension continued. The guarantee of continued industrial activity from full order books has been lessened with a cutback in delivery dates from 3.5 months in March to 3.1 months. (Die Welt, 26 July 1971)

implement the ideas put forward by a group of FDP politicians, which have not yet come to fruition, but which provide for a payment on the sum inherited to replace the present death duties.

This would mean that instead of the taxman picking up cash shares in the firm in question would be made over to government funds, which would distribute them among workers in the firm within the scope of the accumulation of capital wealth in private hands policies.

In this way the inheritance itself, but not the company and its competitiveness would be affected.

If such a reform were introduced, taking in social and economic changes since the Prussian tax reform of 1891 it would be possible to talk of one of the great reform laws of the century, something about which the former Finance Minister Alex Müller dreamt.

But what Bonn has planned so far is nothing but a voluminous catalogue of changes to tax legislation.

Michael Jungblut
(Die Zeit, 6 August 1971)

Trade treaty wanted to boost Peking deals

When they meet again in the autumn the EEC ministers will deal with the question of Communist China and set the course for future dealings with it. In addition to this the committee of oriental experts in the Federal Republic's economic circles will be preparing a new initiative for dealing with the People's Republic of China.

In Bonn it is considered likely that the ministerial directors in the EEC foreign ministries will begin preparatory talks on this theme in the near future.

The spokesman for this country's foreign office Guido Brunner stated: "Developments in Asia are an important consideration for Europe. It is quite likely that these developments will be discussed."

He pointed out that after the agreements that had been reached talks in Luxembourg about political cooperation within the Six virtually any theme could become the subject of these consultations.

Members of the working group on China in the panel of oriental experts for the West German economy are looking forward to forging contacts with Red China if the Chinese Foreign Trade Minister Pao Hsiang-kuo is present at the head of a delegation of economic advisers visiting several European States in September and October namely Denmark, Finland, France and Norway.

Stress has also been laid by the pundits on the increased interest shown by Peking recently in the European Economic Community.

In an interview with *Die Welt* Otto Wolff von Amerongen, the President of the Central Association of German Chambers of Trade said the committee of oriental trade experts has stressed that from 1973 onwards, if the trade policies of the six members countries are to be pursued communally it should be quite possible to negotiate a trade treaty with Peking.

In 1970 West Germany trade with Peking again declined. According to the East Asia Association in Hamburg it dropped by 4.2 per cent compared with the previous year to 920,900,000 Marks.

Our exports (344,100,000 Marks) compared with 308 million in 1969) dropped even more markedly than exports, which fell from 617,700,000 Marks in 1969 to 612 million last year. Nevertheless the Federal Republic remains China's third most important trade partner after Japan and Hong Kong.

(Die Welt, 30 July 1971)

SCIENCE

New research project plans computer dating for porcelain

The Dr. Gottfried Reuter Ceramics Institute of Munich and the Polymer Physics Company of Tübingen are now cooperating on the first systematic research programme for calculating the age of valuable old ceramics — starting with mainly Meissen porcelain.

A computer file will be built up with all the methods of art history available and all the sciences that are only now starting to penetrate into the field of art.

It should allow porcelain and other ceramic items to be dated with the utmost degree of precision — perhaps right down to the actual year of manufacture and the very kiln used.

A number of trials recently conducted in London before a committee of art dealers, collectors and art historians gives some idea of what science can offer.

Photographs can be enlarged to show the bubbles, present in the glazing of porcelain. Bubbles of this type always occur when the basic material is baked for the second time. Gas is produced during firing and much of it remains caught in the glazing, causing the bubbles.

Chinese porcelain over the centuries can be differentiated from the glazing. A collector will recognise the transitional

DIE WELT

porcelain from the period between the Ming and Ching emperors in the seventeenth century from the rough bubble texture.

Porcelain produced during the reign of Ching emperor Kang-Hsi on the other hand has a very fine bubble texture in its glazing. The cobalt blue underlying the glazing shimmers through and can be easily recognised.

The latest experiments have also shown that there are differences in the chemical composition of the glazing found on European porcelain. They can be recognised with the aid of electron microscopes.

Differences in the amount of chemical substances used in the decoration can be even more striking. European paint manufacturers in the eighteenth century produced paints that were far more contaminated with foreign substances than in the nineteenth or twentieth centuries. It

is these impure colours which give old porcelain its harmonious colouring.

Systematic research work can catalogue and codify the special ageing features that connoisseurs today have to judge subjectively. Old porcelain for instance is often discoloured by grey impurities while modern porcelain is much whiter. Old Chinese porcelain is often marked by black areas for fern ash.

Intensifying work of this type should lead to a large and sudden increase in the number of methods by which specialists can date ceramic items.

These will range from the structure of the earthenware foundation and texture of glazing and pigmentation to data obtained from chemical analysis, quite apart from the clues offered by history or art history.

A number of individual experimental research projects since the war have shown the practicability of using modern scientific methods in analysing old works of art.

But there was never any institution with the adequate capital necessary to carry out the work. Industrialist Gottfried Reuter now seems ready to assume responsibility for this.

Reuter, himself a passionate collector of porcelain with a collection of Meissen porcelain that comes close to the famous Schneider collection in size, owns the Ceramics Institute in Munich and the industrial research firm of Polymer Physics in Tübingen.

The Munich Institute is built up around Reuter's collection that is particularly strong in the classical Meissen porcelain of the Hordt and Kändler periods.

Research work in Munich is conducted by Monika Hornig-Sutter. The physical and chemical work in Tübingen is to be carried out by P. Höl.

Research work will begin with the examination of Meissen (Dresden) porcelain that still fetches the highest price of all European ceramics.

Classical Meissen porcelain is the most valuable old porcelain there is and it has often been copied and imitated. In the nineteenth century in Meissen itself the costly eighteenth century Dresden china was again manufactured. Because of this it seems right for Reuter's project to begin with Meissen porcelain.

Volkswagen Foundation faces financial problem

The ubiquitous Volkswagen Beetle continues to run and run and run but its success is rivalled by the Volkswagen Foundation that continues to grow and grow, its wealth increasing unchecked.

But before the Hanover-based Foundation enters the exclusive multi-million Mark club, the State will be sending in its auditors with a number of critical objections.

The achievements of the Volkswagen Foundation, the world's richest, during the first ten years of its existence are remarkable.

The Foundation was set up following the long legal dispute between Bonn and the Federal state of Lower Saxony over the ownership of the Volkswagen factory.

In 1962, its first year of business, the Foundation had capital amounting to

some 1,200 million Marks — not bad for a beginner!

Although the Foundation has awarded a yearly sum of between one hundred and two hundred million Marks for the furtherance of science, its total capital has not decreased. The Foundation's value is now approaching 1,500 million Marks.

When drawing up the Foundation's statutes, both Bonn and Hanover, the seat of the Lower Saxony state government, planned a growth of Foundation grants and not an increase in the body's wealth. "The purpose of the Foundation," the statutes proclaim, "is to further science and technology in research and teaching."

Accounts departments in Bonn and Hanover have now snapped into action. The auditors tolerated dealings in 1966 and 1967 when the Foundation shifted the basis of its wealth a little and spent almost 68 million on Volkswagen shares,

The first aim of the research is to calibrate the material according to features such as the use of a particular decoration, particular colours and distinguishing marks.

The features will then be checked. Unfortunately cooperation with the son works does not seem to be possible. This is a pity as the archives there contain a large number of documents which would provide valuable information.

The second step that the research will undertake will be to use the scientific methods on previously dated items. The data thus gained will be used for calculating the age and of unknown items.

One day collectors will be able to exact information about their purchases from the computer. A small piece of porcelain weighing a milligram will suffice. It will be under an electron microscope and under the lens as well as by the eye of an art historian.

A press on a button is then all that is needed and the computer jumps into action and quickly supplies its verdict. This expensive coffee-pot bearing decorations from the Hordt period is a skilful imitation dating from the mid-nineteenth century!

Harald Sier
(Die Welt, 30 Aug)

Ultra-sound waves combat pollution and help medicine

Ultra-sound waves have been used during basic research work at the furt's Hattelle Institute to reduce the size of droplets smaller than anything used before, representing an important scientific advance.

This process, tested up to now only at laboratory level, is expected to lead in three completely different fields.

Fine aerosol sprays can be produced in this way for medical use. When inhaled, they will penetrate deeper into the lungs and prove more effective than sprays used today.

Secondly, motor fuels can be treated in this way to attain a greater degree of refinement, thus stopping many of the toxic fumes otherwise found in exhaust.

Thirdly, waste effluent can be dissolved more quickly in microstructures such as protein molecules that are biologically soluble in water.

A. Ryke
(Frankfurter Rundschau, 30 Aug 1971)

although the statutes did not mention the possibility of such a transaction.

But the accounts departments are now beginning to object. The Foundation has built research institutes of its own and has so far awarded over 25 million Marks on grants for worthy projects.

The auditors claim that in reality these institutes the Foundation is establishing territory outside the scope of its statutes. The Foundation should fund science but should not run directly or indirectly research institutes of its own.

The Volkswagen Foundation, the richest in the world, outdoing all American organisations of this type including the Nobel Foundation, is alleged to have accounts departments and managers who show them the door so to speak at long talks with Bonn and Hanover in 1970.

Nobody wants to fight the Foundation but, the Lower Saxony government states, it must decide whether it wants to grow larger or give better support to science and technology by increasing the amount it gives annually in grants.

(Der Tagesspiegel, 1 August 1971)

THE ENVIRONMENT

Dumping radioactive waste in disused mines solves a problem

DIE WELT

With depressing regularity the power requirements of industrialised countries double every decade. By the beginning of next century Mankind will be using more electric power per annum than in the whole of recorded history together.

As the world's population increases and reserves of fossil energy (coal, petroleum and natural gas) are gradually exhausted maximum exploitation of atomic energy is a necessity.

By the year 2000 this country will be dotted with roughly 150 nuclear power stations with a total capacity of 100 gigawatts, or 100 million kilowatts.

Extensive utilisation of atomic power is necessarily linked with large amounts of radioactive waste as a by-product and this waste represents an additional strain on the environment.

Unlike industrial and domestic garbage the problem is less the amount than the radioactivity. Depending on the composition of the waste, radiation of varying intensity (alpha, beta and gamma rays) is emitted. Its harmful effect on the living organism, particularly human glands, is well known.

For some time scientists and engineers have accordingly been on the lookout for viable ways of defusing radioactive waste for all time.

One straightforward procedure that is, however, applicable only to short-lived radionuclides is to mark time. The radioactive agent decays and after a varying but specific period of time radiation is reduced to a minimum.

In many cases, though, periods of several hundred years are involved, with the result that means of disposal must be found that will not present generations to come with additional problems. An absolutely failsafe exclusion of radionuclides from the entire biosphere must be ensured for centuries.

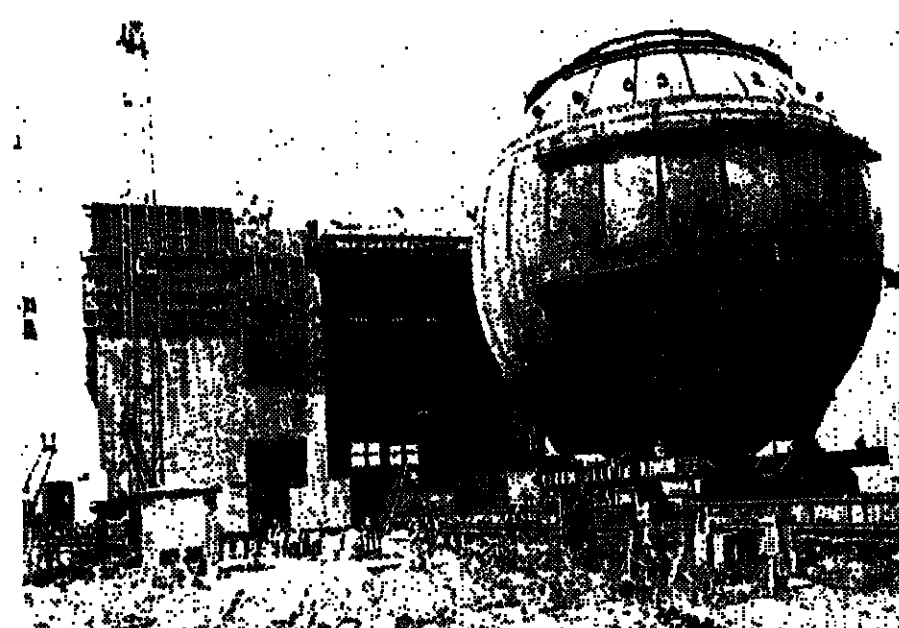
A practicable solution for this country and one that has proved successful in trials is to store atomic waste in old mines or natural or artificial underground caverns.

The scientific basis of storing radioactive waste in old salt mines and underground caverns from which the salt deposits have been washed out has been the subject of work at Clausthal-Zellerfeld since 1965.

Several thousands drums of low-radioactivity waste have already been consigned to the caverns and galleries of Asse II, a disused salt mine near Wolfenbüttel that has been specially prepared for use as a repository for radioactive waste.

At the end of this year work is to commence on the transfer of waste of medium radioactivity to the Wolfenbüttel salt mine.

Starting in 1975 highly radioactive waste of the kind produced by fast breeder reactors (reactors that produce



Brunstüttel nuclear power station container being edged into position

(Photo: AP)

Brunstüttel power station's nuclear container

more fuel than they consume) will be finding a final resting place 2,400 feet below Wolfenbüttel.

Disused salt mines have the edge on ore or coal mines in several respects. Salt deposits are not generally connected with the water table and so have no link with the Earth's biosphere.

Also, one of the properties of salt is that it absorbs steam from the surrounding atmosphere. Even in the long term, then, corrosion of the storage drums is a virtual impossibility.

Slight earth tremors and shifts cause rifts and chinks. Salt is so flexible that under the pressure of the earth above it automatically seals any faults of this kind and prevents radioactive gases from escaping to the surface.

Highly radioactive waste, like the fuel elements in reactors, not only produces radiation; it also generates a considerable amount of heat. This presents scientists and technicians with grave problems.

Salt caverns again prove a satisfactory solution. In comparison with other stone, salt deposits are a good conductor of heat. Heat generated is swiftly exchanged with the surroundings and the storage area is thus not overheated.

The excavation of caverns in salt deposits presents no problems whatsoever. Fresh water is pumped in via a 100-metre borehole and salt water pumped out. Caverns of various sizes and spherical or cylindrical in shape can be pumped out as required.

Once it is filled with radioactive waste the cavern is sealed with a concrete plug and can be left to its own devices. The storage capacity of existing or potential facilities is virtually unlimited.

The processing of waste, which occurs in a variety of forms, is a slightly

Continued on page 15

Minister calls for pollution watchdog

Bonn Agriculture Minister Josef Ertl advocates the establishment of a central institution to keep a regular and systematic check on waste that represents an environmental hazard.

This was announced after an interview with the Minister by Professor Grzimek, the government's nature conservancy consultant.

Dr Grzimek noted that research into toxic substances in this country does not possess the facilities available to comparable research bodies abroad.

Above all there is little research into the residue of toxins in living animals, which in its turn is the best pointer to the health hazard for human beings.

"Research into human foodstuffs is not, he commented, enough."

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 2 August 1971)

Heavy fines for water pollution

Pollution of the waterways will, by the terms of a Bill recently approved by the Federal Cabinet, be liable to a fine of up to 50,000 Marks. According to the Ministry of the Interior the Water Resources Bill, of which this provision forms a part, is now at committee stage.

The Bill, a Ministry spokesman claims, represents a major contribution to environmental protection. It deals mainly with uniform provisions for the storage and transfer of substances such as oil that represent a potential hazard to water supplies.

Water boards are to be given greater powers to intervene in cases where development may threaten water supplies. All pollution, including indirect pollution via the sewage mains, is to be rendered detectable.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 31 July 1971)

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SHIPPING

Hapag-Lloyd to discontinue transatlantic services

Splendid parties and sweating stokers, smoking funnels and the company's blue band ensign between them characterise a fascinating era in the history of German and international shipping that is now coming to a close.

Hapag-Lloyd, the country's largest shipping line, has now decided once and for all to discontinue regular passenger services on the North Atlantic run at the beginning of next year.

Hopelessly outclassed by competition from the world's airlines ocean liners are no longer an economic proposition. The *Europa* and the *Bremen* will in future run cruises.

For more than a century the two major German lines Norddeutscher Lloyd of Bremen and Hamburg-Amerika-Packfahrt (Hapag) — they merged a year ago — were Britain's major competitors for the Blue Riband the prized flag designed, as it were, in imitation of the Order of the Garter for the fastest liner on the North Atlantic run.

The first *Bremen* set out on its maiden voyage on the sultry afternoon of 19 June 1858. Ninety-six metres (315 feet) long, Norddeutscher Lloyd's first steamer liner reached New York in fourteen days.

Hapag of Hamburg (the two cities have always been fierce rivals on the high seas) was well and truly trounced. Its 750-GRT *Deutschland*, one of the fastest sailing ships of the time, took some 42 days to convey twenty cabin passengers and 200 deck passengers to the eastern seaboard of the United States.

Blue Riband

As the transport of German emigrants was proving an increasingly lucrative proposition the two lines built in the course of subsequent decades numbers of larger and faster steam liners to cut the time it took to travel to the land of unlimited opportunity.

Not until the end of the nineteenth century, however, did German shipping represent serious competition for Britain. In 1897 Hapag's 14,349-GRT *Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosse*, an impressive steel-clad vessel boasting a collection of funnels and comfortable decor, first won the Blue Riband for Germany.

Wilhelm II, the reigning monarch, was most interested in everything to do with shipping and encouraged shipowners to adopt ever more adventurous policies.

Shortly after the opening of the Kiel Canal in 1895 the Kaiser started the major confrontation between the two companies. Both had gone to enormous trouble and expense to ensure that the Kaiser and his retinue first made the canal crossing from the North Sea to the Baltic on board their flagship.

When the Kaiser announced that he would cross first on board the Imperial yacht *Hohenzollern* followed by the German princes on board the Lloyd flagship a small, unremarkable man, as contemporaries described him, got up and told the Kaiser that the Elbe and its approaches were Hamburg territory and that it was a matter of course that the princes travelled on board a Hapag ship.

The man was Albert Ballin, whose name is inseparably linked with the emergence of the Hapag as one of the world's major shipping lines.

The Kaiser replied to the effect that this was local patriotism par excellence

Münchener Merkur

and promptly arranged for the princes to travel on the ship of the larger line, Norddeutscher Lloyd.

Ballin in return resorted to a stratagem. He saw to it that major journalists covering the event travelled on board Hapag steamers and publicised the fact. This piece of effrontery impressed the Kaiser who became a good friend of Ballin's. A few years later Ballin became Hapag's managing director.

In the first decade of this century German shipyards built increasingly larger and faster liners for the two companies.

Ships that made maritime history such as the 50,000-ton *Imperator* attracted thousands of onlookers as they steamed in and out of port. Liners such as the *First Bismarck* and the *Vaterland* were felt to be the latest thing and miracles of technological precision.

The ship's interiors were luxurious in the extreme after the fashion of the period. Crystal chandeliers lit purple salons and genuine Meissen porcelain, nothing but the best, accompanied the hot-polloi on their travels.

The passage to New York cost, first class, 8,000 gold Marks, a staggering sum of money for those days. Deck passengers paid a mere 110 Marks for their hard wooden bunks, rats and cockroaches.

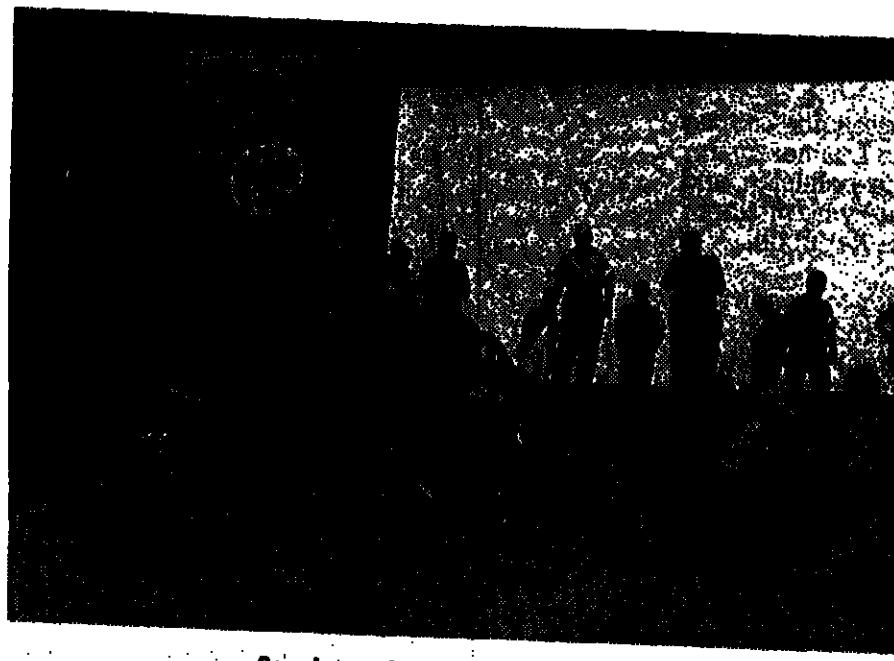
The emigrant trade reached its peak at the turn of the century and made both lines considerable profits. Norddeutscher Lloyd celebrated its ten millionth passenger in 1913.

Gigantomania and tempo mania were dealt an abrupt blow in 1912 when the *Titanic* sank, costing 1,700 lives. In an attempt to regain the Blue Riband the captain had chosen a dangerous northern route and steamed at full speed into an iceberg. The band played to the last as the unsinkable giant made its way to Davy Jones' Locker.

The First World War well and truly put paid to Germany's gigantic ocean liners. Not until 1929 did Norddeutscher Lloyd's new *Europa* regain the Blue Riband by crossing the North Atlantic at an average speed of 29.701 knots.

Thomas Wolgast

(Münchener Merkur, 29 July 1971)



Soap-box racing Derby in Duisburg

(Photo: dpa)

Opel sponsors last soap-box racing Derby

Soapbox racers have seen the last of a benefactor who has done them proud for many a long year. After a Duisburg race a spokesman for Opel, the motor manufacturers, announced that "The 1971 national soapbox-racing championships were the last to be held under our patronage."

Ekkehard Rohde of the Opel board commented that "We are now convinced that in the wake of tempestuous technological development, above all as a result of increasing demands on young people's knowledge and ability, specifically in the safety sector, our youth work must be more broadly based."

It remains nonetheless to be seen whether this will be curtains for a form of racing for young people that dates back to the turn of the Century in the Taunus region, near Frankfurt.

At present top-level negotiations are in progress between Opel and ADAC, the motoring organisation, with the aim of ensuring that the ADAC at least maintains the national championships and possibly introduces equality of the sexes in the Soapbox Derby.

For some years now young girls have written indignant letters to the company asking why only boys between the ages of eleven and fifteen are allowed to enjoy the thrills and spills of soapbox racing.

This year a special race for girl competitors was held at Duisburg but the winner stood no chance of representing this country in the world championships.

Karl-Heinz Peter of Berlin, on the other hand, is off to Akron, Ohio, and a world championships on 14 August.

Soapbox racing in this country, a story goes, first saw the light of day in the Taunus mountains. In 1905 snapshots of young people carrying downhill in boxes on wheels were taken and similar races were soon recorded in the Taunus and the Black Forest.

In the thirties the Americans imported sporting discipline that had already been popular in this country.

The story goes that press photographer Myron E. Scott, subsequently director

DIE WELT

the Soapbox Derby world championships in Akron, Ohio, first hit on the idea and organised the first race with 330 competitors and 40,000 spectators in 1934.

After the Second World War soapbox racing was part of the youth programme of the US army of occupation. Regional soapbox championships were held in cities and towns in the American Zone in 1949. The organisation was taken over by Opel and the first national championships held in Hamburg in 1951.

Both design and practice have changed considerably since the early days. Champions no longer build soapboxes from pram wheels and planks. There are standard wheels, brakes, steering, dimensions and weights.

The rules and regulations specify that "Driver and vehicle together may not weigh more than 113 kilograms (250 lb)."

Even at that "the Americans are always a little ahead of us," one of the organisers concedes. American soapboxes have a different steering mechanism and America was the first country to have soapbox racers lie flat on their back for aerodynamic reasons.

But competitors from this country have learnt a trick or two too. They cool down their wheels with a damp cloth and balance them so as to ensure additional momentum.

Last year this country's entrant in the world championships was pipped at the post because he disregarded a golden rule of soapbox racing: "Drive straight as a die and don't look round."

The German boy led the field until the yards from the finishing line but looked round and was overtaken in the process.

Dieter Lau

(Die Welt, 3 August 1971)

PEOPLE
Psychologist examines women's hopes from life

Liberal Nachrichten

Psychologist Dr Ursula Lehr of Bonn spent hours listening to the life stories of 120 average women as a means of assessing changes that might have come about in what women expect of life.

For men their life stories are largely the story of their careers; women tend to tell the story of their marriages. Yet nine out of ten of the sample had been working girls and women, three out of four had worked during their married lives and a fair number intended to go back to work at some stage or other.

In the circumstances the emphasis on the marriage indicates how little women have succeeded in gaining self-confidence and the feeling of being man's equal.

Men attach a certain importance to the family too but apart from marriage, divorce and major marital crises the marriage only assumes importance when a woman comes into contact with the career, the more often than not clashing.

It is noticeable that women of between forty and fifty take a particularly dim view of their future. Thirty- to forty-year-olds have high hopes; forty- to fifty-year-olds feel more than any other age group that such changes as occur will probably be for the worst.

They have come to realise that they are not growing any younger and are confronted with the fact as each day passes. Fortunately this mood does not persist. At about the age of fifty a change occurs. The over-fifties feel fairly confident about the future, differing little in this respect from the thirty-year-olds.

Phases typical of forty- to fifty-year-olds are "There is no point," "It is all over and done with," "There is no changing anything" and "You just have to take things as they are."

The over-fifties appear to have grown used to the idea of age and to have come to feel that "We have reached our best, let's hope it stays this way" and "We have never had it so good."

Only enough, Dr Lehr notes, it is the over-fifties who are most interesting in broadening their horizons.

Their first wish is to travel and get to know the world, to see and experience a lot. Now that the children have grown up, it would seem, women feel that they can now pay less attention to the family and enjoy themselves for once.

These are the grandmothers who are not all that interested in their grandchildren because they fear inroads into their own private lives.

There are, of course, differences. The desire to travel, to participate in social life and to attend concerts and theatrical

performances is mainly expressed by women whose marriages are a success.

Older women whose marriages are subject to severe strain or whose husbands have passed away are more interested in further education, reading and social activities. They also have more time for their grandchildren.

Why are the forty- to fifty-year-olds so afraid of changes? For one, because they are unable to find a new direction and purpose in life.

Time and time again the case histories indicated that women in this age group clung to past obligations, duties moreover that they had always felt to be a burden.

They often feel that these tasks represent the meaning and purpose of life, regardless whether it is a matter of looking after the grandparents or caring for grown-up children who will soon be establishing families of their own.

This decade differs decidedly from all others in that there are next to no plans for the future. Oddly enough the twenty- to forty-year-olds and the over-fifties both have high hopes and plans. In this respect they differ not a jot.

In intensive analysis of the 120 case histories Dr Lehr notes that a woman's attitude towards children varies considerably as the years pass. Periods of intense attachment during which the mother does not want the children to leave home are followed by periods during which she would be only too happy if they would stand on their own two feet.

It is hardly surprising that the over-fifties would like to see the back of the children so as to be able to enjoy their own lives and are afraid that the children or grandchildren might thwart their plans.

What is surprising is that the thirty- to forty-year-olds also feel this way whereas the over-fifties feel precisely the opposite. They are afraid that the children might want to make their own way in life at too early an age and do their level best to keep the children dependent on themselves in one way or another.

Age is by far from the only consideration, though. One reason why a mother is bent on keeping the children tied to her apron strings is her fear of the mother-in-law role.

Dr Gerhard Weise

(Liberal Nachrichten, 1 August 1971)

Continued from page 13

different matter. Contaminated matter such as paper, glass and plastic can be dealt with relatively easily but accounts for only a small proportion of the waste that accumulates.

Most waste is dissolved or suspended in reactor effluent. Radioactive gas and contaminated exhaust containing radioactive particles and aerosols also occur.

There are a number of chemical processes, precipitation and filtration, by which these radionuclides can be separated and solidified. So-called absolute filters extract up to 99.97 per cent of radioactive matter.

Once suspended radioactive matter has been filtered out of radioactive gases such as helium 3 or carbon 14 they are only slightly toxic and can be released into the atmosphere without misgivings.

In cases where radioactive liquid is involved precipitation and evaporation

One teenager in twenty has tried hashish at least once

STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG

The Federal government faces serious problems both in combating the trade in narcotics and in providing information about the misuse of drugs.

This is the tenor of a written answer by the Ministry of Health to a parliamentary question tabled by the Christian Democratic and Christian Social Unions.

At the same time details of a poll conducted on behalf of the government's Press and Information Office to determine the general public's attitude towards hashish and LSD were released.

According to the survey one over-sixteen in twenty has tried out hash at one time or other. In the sixteen- to nineteen-year-old age group the ratio is one in five.

In this age group 63 per cent stated their willingness to try hashish out where as among the population as a whole only ten per cent would be interested in trying it out for themselves.

Among the population as a whole 82 per cent are opposed to the idea and three per cent are don't knows. Among sixteen- to nineteen-year-olds only fourteen per cent are opposed to the use of cannabis resin and four per cent undecided.

The Federal government had no comment to make on these figures, even though they indicate that many young people are potential pot-smokers. It is merely noted that further work on the consumption of narcotics is in progress.

The parliamentary reply also indicates that the government has launched a considerable number of information campaigns on the use and effect of drugs.

Bonn does not feel itself to be in a position to meet overall demand for information on the subject. All it can do is lend support to pilot projects and supra-regional events. In this way the Ministry of Health is doing its bit to boost the number of people able to

local level to provide information for the general public.

In conjunction with the Ministers of the Interior of the states the Federal government has taken measures to combat the illegal trade in narcotics and the equally illegal import of drugs.

The Federal and state CID's are continually to compare notes so as to be in a better position to assist in investigations.

Customs officials have been made acquainted with simple procedures to determine whether or not a substance is hashish and police dogs have also been trained to spot narcotics.

CID narcotics work, particularly the exchange of information, is to be improved. Foreigners sentenced in this country as narcotics dealers will, the states have agreed, now serve their sentences in full before being deported.

Turkish sources

The parliamentary question also involves the extent of international co-operation. The Federal government notes that some eighty per cent of the heroin illegally traded in Europe and Asia is refined from Turkish poppies. Turkey is thus of major importance as a source country.

Bonn notes that the Turkish government has in recent years consistently reduced the acreage and cultivation. Premier Demirel reduced the number of provinces in which the cultivation of poppies was legal from twenty-one to four.

On 29 June Premier Erkin's government banned the cultivation of opium poppies entirely as of autumn next year except to meet medical requirements.

The Federal government has not stated whether it expects the ban to have any perceptible effect on illegal heroin imports into this country.

(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 6 August 1971)

Radioactive waste in disused mines

have proved a success. After decontamination up to 99.99 per cent of radioactive matter is concentrated in the remainder which is then given an admixture of glass-forming material and melted into blocks of convenient size.

Low-radioactive waste can, together with the left-overs of gas processing and contaminated matter that is already solid, be reduced to ash in newly-developed incinerators.

The first incinerator of this kind recently started to work at full capacity at Karlsruhe nuclear research centre. At a temperature of roughly 1,000 degrees centigrade some eight kilograms of radioactive material can be incinerated hourly.

Waste is reduced to a hundredth of its previous volume and the ash contains some 99 per cent of previous radioactivity. Ceramic filters purify the exhaust, which is emitted via a chimney highly resistant to acid and heat.

The incinerator is highly compact and reliable and always at less than atmospheric pressure in order to prevent toxic radioactive matter from escaping into the atmosphere.

Solidified and packed into handy drums, the radioactive ash is finally transported to the Wolfenbüttel salt mine, its final resting-place.

Known processes for dealing with nuclear waste ensure that the disposal of waste will present, as far as can be foreseen, no problems as far as existing and projected nuclear power stations and experimental reactors are concerned.

Klaus Bruns

(Die Welt, 6 August 1971)

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